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(5211.)

PART XI.

F.O.
403

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF NORTH AFRICA.

56

July to December 1885.

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Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of North Africa.

PART XI.

No. 1.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 49.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 24, 1885.

THE Envoy of the Sultan to the French Republic, Cid Abd-el-Malek Ben-el-Hashmy, embarked this day on board the French frigate "Aréthuse," and proceeded to Toulon.

Several horses were taken on board, which it is reported are to be presented to President Grévy.

I observe in French journals that the sum of 50,000 fr. has been voted in the Chamber of Deputies for defraying the expenses of the Moorish Envoy.

M. Feraud, the French Minister, accompanies the Mission to Paris.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 2.

Sir J. Walsham to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 420.)

My Lord,

Paris, June 30, 1885.

LORD LYONS mentioned in his despatch No. 402 of the 23rd instant, the expected arrival at Paris of a special Embassy from the Sultan of Morocco, and I have now the honour to report its arrival, accompanied by M. Feraud, the French Representative at Tangier.

His Excellency transmitted at the same time an article from the Paris newspaper "La France," written in its usual spirit of hostility towards England. This article had especial reference to the alleged suppression of the "Réveil du Maroc," a journal published in French at Tangier. As to-day's number of "La France" contains a letter from a correspondent at Tangier which, in alluding to the special Embassy, refers again to the question of the "Réveil du Maroc," I venture to forward to your Lordship the accompanying extract from it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Extract from "La France" of June 30, 1885.

LA "FRANCE" AU MAROC.

Tangier, le 24 Juin, 1885.

AINSI que je vous l'ai annoncé dans ma dernière dépêche, l'Ambassade Marocaine que le Sultan envoie à Paris, part aujourd'hui à bord de "l'Aréthuse," que le Gouvernement Français a mis à sa disposition.

[662]

Elle se compose du Caïd Abd-el-Malec-Saïdi, Gouverneur d'Oujda, un des hommes les plus éclairés de l'Empire et qui, en maintes occasions, a donné des témoignages de sympathie à la France; de Sidi-el-Mouëz, Président des Cadis (autorités religieuses) de Fez; du fils de ce dernier; d'un Secrétaire d'Ambassade; de quatre Caïds; du Capitaine de Boupharis, de la Cavalerie Légère du Sultan; d'un intendant; d'un Administrateur; d'un cuisinier; d'un barbier et de cinq palefreniers.

La Mission est en outre accompagnée de douze jeunes gens, que le Sultan envoie à l'École du Génie de Montpellier, accompagnés d'un sous-officier Marocain parlant Français qui leur sert d'interprète. Ces jeunes gens seront présentés à l'École du Génie par le Sous-Lieutenant Roger, qui faisait partie de la Mission Militaire qui a suivi l'Ambassade Française à Fez.

M. Féraud, le Ministre de France, accompagné de M. Benchimol, son deuxième interprète, part avec l'Ambassade Marocaine. Cette combinaison est on ne peut plus heureuse, car elle permettra à notre Ministre d'assister le Gouvernement dans ses négociations avec la Mission Arabe et de compléter ainsi l'œuvre qu'il a si bien commencée à Fez.

Le Sultan envoie au Président de la République dix beaux chevaux richement harnachés et vingt caisses fermées contenant toutes sortes d'objets de provenance Marocaine. Ces cadeaux seront remis à M. Grévy par l'Ambassadeur du Maroc.

Ainsi que je vous l'ai télégraphié, Tanger paraît menacé d'une seconde édition de l'incident du "Bosphore Égyptien," et, ici encore, les autorités Anglaises paraissent vouloir jouer le même rôle que leurs compatriotes ont joué en Égypte.

Il s'agit d'une plainte adressée aux Représentants étrangers, par le Gouvernement Marocain, contre les attaques auxquelles il est en butte de la part de la presse locale, plainte appuyée par la Légation Britannique, laquelle, comme je vous l'ai dit dans ma dépêche, a menacé le propriétaire de l'imprimerie locale, un sujet Anglais, de supprimer le journal qui contiendrait dorénavant des attaques contre le Gouvernement Marocain, ou les Légations étrangères.

Cette prétention Britannique a provoqué une réunion des membres de la presse locale, et des notables de la Colonie Européenne. Dans cette réunion, on a protesté contre l'attitude de la Légation Anglaise et décidé la création d'une Association Internationale qui aura pour but de défendre l'autonomie légale des journaux locaux contre tout acte arbitraire.

Les deux journaux hebdomadaires du Maroc, qui comptent déjà plus de deux années d'existence, ont rendu des services réels à la colonie. Leur influence en ce qui concerne les réformes à introduire dans le pays a été à peu près nulle, car leurs efforts se sont constamment heurtés contre les traditions séculaires du Maroc et la rivalité des Représentants étrangers; mais ils ont contribué efficacement, — et c'est là déjà un précieux résultat — à attirer sur le Maroc l'attention du monde civilisé et surtout à prévenir les abus de pouvoir des Consuls étrangers.

Il est à remarquer que, malgré la différence des vues politiques dont s'inspire chacun des journaux locaux, ils se sont toujours rencontrés sur le même terrain pour critiquer la Légation Britannique, dont l'action a été de tout temps préjudiciable au développement des relations commerciales du Maroc avec l'étranger et, par suite, à la situation matérielle des étrangers établis dans ce pays.

De là naturellement une irritation croissante de la part de la colonie, irritation qui se traduit dans les feuilles locales, par des attaques trop justifiées contre Sir John Hay, le Représentant de la Grande-Bretagne.

Je n'ai pas besoin de vous dire qu'il n'y a pas de loi au Maroc applicable aux journalistes étrangers et que, quand elle existerait, ils y échapperaient naturellement en vertu du droit des Capitulations.

(Signé) A. PIMENTA.

No. 3.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 31.)
Sir,

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch No. 48 of the 19th ultimo, respecting the abuse by certain foreign Legations at Tangier of the diplomatic

Foreign Office, July 4, 1885.

privilege of importing grain; and I have to state that Her Majesty's Government agree with you in thinking that it will not be advisable to take any steps in the matter at present.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 4.

*The Marquis of Salisbury to Viscount Lyons.**

(No. 633.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 8, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith to your Excellency, for your information, copies of two despatches which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, relative to M. Féraud's proceedings at the Moorish Court and the proposed dispatch of Moorish Embassies to Paris and Madrid.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 5.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir R. Morier.‡

(No. 71.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 11, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, relative to the affairs of Morocco and the amount of public interest taken therein at the present moment in Paris.§

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 6.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 19.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, July 19, 1885.

REFERRING to my despatch No. 54, by His Majesty's commands Demnat Jews to be placed in jurisdiction of another Governor. Officer high rank has been sent to conduct deputation of Jews to Court, where all their complaints would be investigated.

No. 7.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received by telegraph, July 19.)

(No. 57. Ext.)

Tangier, July 19, 1885.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 54 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to report that the Sultan has removed the Jews of Demnat from the jurisdiction of the Governor of that town, placing them under that of another Governor. His Shereefian Majesty has dispatched an officer of high rank to Demnat with orders to conduct the deputation of Jews to the Court in order that their grievances and claims may be investigated by His Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

* Also to Sir R. Morier (No. 68).

† Also to Sir J. Drummond Hay (No. 32).

‡ See Part X, Nos. 119 and 120.
§ Ibid., No. 129.

(No. 470.) *Viscount Lyons to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 20.)*

My Lord,

M. DE FREYCINET told me this afternoon that the Ambassadors from Morocco had taken leave of the President of the Republic and of himself, and were about to quit France.

The Embassy had, he said, been simply one of courtesy and compliment. The Ambassadors had brought presents and had been charged with presents to take back. Their expenses in France had been defrayed by the French Government.

M. de Freycinet informed me that the Ambassadors had declared, on their arrival, that they had no mission from the Sultan to transact any business with the French Government, and his Excellency added that, in fact, no serious matter of business had been treated by them or with them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received July 20.)

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury, with reference to your letter of the 25th May, a further Petition from E. and S. Tabone, of Malta, respecting their losses at Gabes in 1881.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Petition.

To the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Petition of Emmanuele and Salvatore Tabone, of Valletta, Malta,

Respectfully sheweth:

THAT on the 18th June, 1885, petitioners received the inclosed answer from the Chief Secretary to Government of this island to a Petition made by them to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding certain losses sustained by them in consequence of the insurrection at Gabes.

In reference thereto, petitioners would humbly point out that their claims were duly presented at the time. In proof of this, petitioners inclose (with a request for their return when done with) the following documents, that is, document A, an inventory dated the 24th June, 1881, certified by the British Consular Agent; document B, inventory showing value of property; document C, copy of protest made by petitioners on the 1st September, 1881.

After the insurrection, petitioners were also called before the International Commission then appointed in the matter, and whilst those who suffered damages at Sfax received compensation, those of Gabes have not received what is their due.

Petitioners would therefore pray that their Petition be graciously considered, so that they may receive the compensation due to them.

And petitioners, as in duty bound, will for ever pray, &c.

(Signed) SALVATORE TABONE.
EMMANUELE TABONE.

Valletta, July 6, 1885.

[Papers A, B, C, in Italian, are not printed.]

Lieutenant-Governor Hutchinson to Messrs. S. and E. Tabone.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta,
June 18, 1885.

Messrs. Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone,

I AM desired by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that a despatch has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, inclosing copy of a letter from the Foreign Office, in which it is stated, with reference to your claim for compensation on account of losses sustained in consequence of the insurrection at Gabes, that no record can be found of the claim having ever been presented by you when compensation was allotted for the losses so incurred, and that it is too late now to bring any such claim forward.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

*Sir J. Pauncefote to Baron H. de Worms, M.P.**

Foreign Office, July 20, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 14th April last, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that it appears, from a telegram received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, that the Sultan of Morocco has ordered the Jews of Demnat to be placed under the jurisdiction of another Governor, and that an officer of high rank has been sent to conduct a deputation of Jews to the Court, where all their complaints will be inquired into.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 54.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to the despatches mentioned in the margin† on the subject of the tyrannical and cruel treatment suffered by the Jewish inhabitants of Demnat at the hands of the Governor of that town, and of the steps I had taken in concert with my colleagues of France and Italy to obtain redress from the Sultan and the better treatment of these unfortunate people, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Rabbi David Amar, the chief of the late deputation from Demnat, and to the British and Austrian interpreters, Mr. Abensur and M. Pariente, reporting the outrages which have been committed by a Mahomedan mob in the presence of Moorish officials, on their entry into Demnat.‡

In the month of March I received a letter from the Vizier,§ requesting me in the name of the Sultan to send the Demnat deputation to the Court under "promise of safety and kind treatment," an engagement which has been repeatedly made by the Vizier in previous and later letters.

With such a guarantee emanating from the Sultan himself, my colleagues and I urged the deputation to go to the Court, and thence to Demnat, and we addressed an identic letter to the Vizier, of which a translation was transmitted in my despatch No. 23 of the 26th March.||

The Italian Minister and I requested M. Féraud, the French Minister, who visited the Court at the same time as Amar and his coreligionists, to use his good offices with the Sultan, in our joint names, in their behalf, and to obtain for them a Sherrefian letter

* Also to Mr. Arthur Cohen, M.P., President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

† See Part X, Nos. 16, 43, 71, 72, and 73.

‡ These officers are Elders of the Hebrew community at Tangier, and have been the channel of my communication with Rabbi Amar.—J. H. D. H.

§ See Part X, Inclosure 1 in No. 72.

|| Ibid., Inclosure 6 in No. 72.

to the Governor and authorities at Demnat, requiring that they should be well treated, and that justice should be done.

The Italian Minister and I had urged that the Commissioners Cid Bubeker, Ben-el-Hadj-el-Bashir, and M. Corcos, a Jewish merchant of Morocco, should again proceed to Demnat on the arrival of the deputation to aid in obtaining justice from the Governor.

M. Féraud, on the 14th May during his return journey from the Court, addressed me a letter, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, transmitting copy of a Shereefian Edict, obtained by him, placing the Rabbi David Amar under His Majesty's special protection.

No mention had been made in the Vizier's replies to me of my request that the Commissioners should be sent to accompany the deputation on their return.

Subsequently to the receipt of the Vizier's and of M. Féraud's letters, I received a communication from Cid Bubeker, expressing his willingness to meet my wishes by going to Demnat to assist the Jews, but informing me that the Sultan had not provided him, as on the former occasion, with a Royal Order, and that he had therefore refrained from interference.

When I received this letter I expressed to my Italian colleague my fear that the Jews would again become the victims of the tyranny of their Governor, and my prediction has been verified.

Immediately on receipt of Rabbi Amar's letter, I addressed a note to the Vizier, of which I transmit a translation. If it be found that I have expressed my indignation at the commission of these fresh outrages in language, which may possibly be considered as too energetic, I beg to observe that I have done so feeling that I have been egregiously deceived by the formal assurances given me by the Vizier in the name of the Sultan, which had led me and my colleagues to guarantee to the Jews that they would be well treated, and have thus caused us unwittingly to bring upon these unfortunate Jews their present misfortunes, for which they will naturally feel we are in a great measure responsible.

I trust that under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government will approve my conduct, and will authorize me, in case the Sultan does not spontaneously dismiss the Governor of Demnat, to repeat in the name of Her Majesty's Government a requisition that he be removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Rabbi David Amar to Sir J. Drummond Hay and to Messrs. A. Abensur and M. Pariente.

(Translation.)

Tamuz 11, 5645 (June 25, 1885).

WE wrote to you from Fez, but have not yet received a reply.

You informed us that the Ministers had given orders to Cid Bubeker, and that you also had written to him that on our return to Demnat he should accompany us to obtain a settlement of our affairs. When we arrived at Kalha we accordingly dispatched an express courier to Cid Bubeker requesting that he might come. He replied that he had in fact received a letter from Sir J. Drummond Hay requesting that he should accompany us, but that he had not received the letter from the Sultan of which he spoke—he had received no letters or orders from the Sultan to that effect, and he added that we could proceed to Demnat without fear.

When we arrived at the gates of Demnat we met the friends of the Governor and more than a hundred other Moors with sticks, stones, and knives, who attacked and struck us, wounding ten persons, one woman, who was with child, receiving three wounds, and now being very dangerously ill, and they cursed all the nations of Europe, &c.

As we perceived that they meant to kill us, we fled, leaving our animals with our goods and money, which were robbed, and took refuge in a town in the neighbourhood of Demnat, but under the jurisdiction of another Governor. I, who write, was thrown down from my mule and stoned, so that I took flight with the rest; and if we had not escaped they would have killed us. And we are still in refuge with our families and belongings.

All that occurred was at the instigation of the Governor, who it was that set the people on us, as we are informed, at the instance of the Jew Izah, who, by his intrigues and tricks, had prejudiced the Governor against us.

When we were at Fez we complained to the Sultan of these evil people, the Jewish partisans of the Governor, and the Vizier, Cid Mohammed Ben-el-Azbi, informed us that the Sultan had written to the Governor to imprison them, and now you see what happened when we arrived.

We beg of you to inform the Ministers of what has occurred—it is what we had expected, for we knew that this Governor would not pay attention to any one, and for that reason, when the Ministers at Tangier were talking to us, we told them this, but they replied that we should have no fear, and that no harm would be done us, and we accordingly followed their advice and returned under their protection. Now they will see that although we never entered Demnat we were nearly killed, and had we not fled we would perhaps have been murdered, and if we wished to recount the miserable state in which we are the paper and ink would not suffice.

For God's sake and for our religion's sake, we beseech you then, inform the Ministers of what has happened to us. We were going to send two or three of our number to Tangier, but have decided not to do so till we receive your reply. Meanwhile, we expect of your friendship that you will answer as soon as possible, and we request you to send your letter to the care of Mr. Moses Amar, of Daralbaida.

After we escaped to this place we were informed by trustworthy persons that the Governor told his people who had wounded us, "We gave you directions to kill them, but I see that all you have done is to wound them."

Your friend,
(Signed) DAVID AMAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

M. Féraud to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

M. et cher Collègue,

Fez, le 14 Mai, 1885.

JE suis heureux de pouvoir vous annoncer que Sa Majesté le Sultan vient de m'adresser une lettre revêtue de son sceau pour m'informer qu'il désire prendre sous sa protection personnelle le délégué Israélite "David Amar," qui d'un commun accord nous avions indiqué au Gouvernement Marocain comme devant être à l'avenir, en cas de litige, l'intermédiaire entre la communauté Israélite de Demnat et le Pacha de cette localité.

Vous constaterez comme moi, je l'espère, en lisant ce document, dont je vous adresse ci-joint copie, qu'il constitue une solution de nature à satisfaire toutes les parties; il sauvegarde l'amour-propre de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, fait droit à la demande que nous avions adressée, et enfin assure à la communauté Israélite une haute protection qui bien certainement la mettra désormais à l'abri de toute espèce de vexations.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) FÉRAUD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

Edict.

Praise to God!

(Translation.)

BE it known from this our letter—may God elevate its authority, so that it be honoured—that we have granted to the bearer, the Jew David Amar, of Demnat, full security and tranquillity in the place where he dwells, no one shall act against him or lay hand upon him from enmity. We order that our Governors and authorities pay attention to our command, glorified through God, and that they carry it into execution, and do not separate themselves from it as long as he lives.

This has been issued by our order, honoured through God!

(L.S. Imp.)

Rajeb 27, 1302 (May 13, 1885).

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

Cid Boobkir Ben-el-Hadj-el-Bashir to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

6 Ramadan, 1302 (June 19, 1885).

I HAVE to acquaint you that, from the day we received your letter making known to us what you and the other Representatives had written to the Shereefian Court on the subject of the Jews of Demnat, we had received no further communication from any one until this day upon that affair. The Jews wrote to us to say that they had arrived at Kelaats, in the district of Sragna, and beg us to come to them and to accompany them to Demnat. I replied that I could not do so, as I had not received any order from the Sultan, which you told me to wait for. We inclose you their letter. No order has reached us from the Sultan to take any part in the settlement of this affair, as you had directed us. If the Shereefian order was sent us, we would do our very best until the affair was satisfactorily settled. Should we not go, and some one else be sent, and the affair be settled in accordance with your wishes, it will be satisfactory, but we cannot help thinking, as we have already told you, that the Vizier is ready to accept statements which are false, and will persuade the Sultan not to accept the condition you made that we should be sent, for he knows that we should be impartial, and that the truth would appear. This would be a source of hatred to us in their part. We have mentioned this to you before, and we think you are aware of it. We have no desire to do anything for the sake of meeting the wishes of any one, but what we desired to do was to carry out the desire you had expressed to arrive at the truth, and to get justice done without partiality to any one. Peace.

(Signed) BOOBKIR BEN-EL-HADJ.

Inclosure 5 in No. 11.

Letter addressed to Cid Boobkir Ben-el-Hadj-el-Bashir by the Deputation of Demnat Jews.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

June 18, 1885.

AS the British Minister, Sir John D. Hay, had expressed a wish that on our reaching the neighbourhood of Demnat we should at once communicate it to you, in order that you may come and accompany us to Demnat, and as we were also recommended by Mr. Aaron Abensur and M. Moses Pariente to do so, we hasten to send you this by special courier to acquaint you that we have this day arrived at Kalaats, and we therefore beg you to have the goodness, on receipt of this letter, to proceed to join us. We will wait for you here until Sunday next, when it is our intention to start and proceed as far as Ulad Khallaf, where we will finally await your arrival. Peace.

(Signed) DAVID AMAR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 11.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, July 11, 1885.

ON the 8th Jumad II (26th March) the Representatives of France and Italy, and I, as the Representative of Great Britain, addressed you an identic letter,* making known that, in pursuance of the wishes which had been repeatedly expressed to us by His Shereefian Majesty through you, the Jewish deputation from Demnat, who had fled to Tangier from the cruel persecution of their Governor, had been recommended to return to their native town, as the most formal assurances had, as we declared to them, been repeatedly given to us by you, in the name of the Sultan, that the Governor of Demnat had received peremptory orders from His Shereefian Majesty to desist from future persecution of the Jewish inhabitants; that full justice would be done them in effecting the settlement of their claims and grievances, and that the Shereefian Edicts, which had been enacted enjoining humane and just treatment of the Jews at Demnat, would be strictly carried into execution.

* For translation of this letter, see Part X, Inclosure 6 in No. 72.

In pursuance of His Shereefian Majesty's express orders, the deputation was required by us to proceed in the first place to the Shereefian Court at Fez, to submit their grievances and claims to His Majesty, and to receive the Shereefian letters, which it was engaged would be addressed on their behalf to the authorities at Demnat.

In the letter we then addressed you it was suggested that Cid Bubecker Ben-el-Hadj-el-Bashir, and the Jewish merchant Corcos, of Morocco, who in the beginning of this year had been appointed by the Sultan as Commissioners to inquire into and report upon the conduct of the Governor of Demnat, should be ordered by His Majesty to accompany the deputation on their return to aid them in bringing about with the Governor a satisfactory settlement of their grievances and claims.

On the 14th May a letter was addressed to me by the French Minister,* who had been requested by the Italian Minister, and by myself, to take advantage of his visit to the Shereefian Court to support, in our names, the Petition of the Jewish deputation to His Majesty for justice, informing me that His Majesty had issued an Edict,† of which the French Minister transmitted a copy, making known to the Governor and other authorities at Demnat that the Elder, David Amar, had been placed under His Majesty's especial protection, and ordering that he should be well treated and protected.

On the 24th Shaban (8th June) you inform me: "The Jews of Demnat, who were at the Court, have returned to Demnat provided with Shereefian Edicts for their protection and safety, and with Royal letters to the Governor and Kadi of Demnat, and to the Administrators of taxes, directing that they should settle their claims, but should defer the more serious claims, such as those for blood-money, until the Sultan shall have arrived at Morocco, and their Governor, who is now on the 'Harka,'‡ shall have returned. His 'Khalifa,'§ now in the town, will, however, take steps to settle claims, except those for blood-money."

To my great astonishment, and I may add indignation, I have received a letter from David Amar, dated the 21st June, of which I transmit an extract,|| giving an account of the cruel outrages he and his brethren suffered on their arrival at the gates of Demnat. Instead of justice and kind treatment, as was promised to them by His Shereefian Majesty, they were stoned, beaten, wounded, and robbed, and had to take refuge in a neighbouring town, which is not under the jurisdiction of the Governor of Demnat.

I request that you lose no time in submitting to His Shereefian Majesty this letter and extract from the letter of David Amar. His Majesty in his wisdom will comprehend, without further comment on my part, that His Majesty's orders have been openly disobeyed, and his Edicts treated as waste paper by the Governor of Demnat, whilst the formal assurances, given to us as the Representatives of friendly Powers by His Shereefian Majesty, that the members of the Deputation and His Majesty's unfortunate Jewish subjects of that town would have justice and be kindly treated, have been falsified by the conduct of the Governor and his dependents.

His Shereefian Majesty, in his clear judgment, will also understand that the fact of His Majesty having repeatedly requested, through you, that I and the Italian Minister should urge the deputation of Jews to return to Demnat, and should give assurances in His Majesty's name that they would be kindly treated, causes this question to assume a graver aspect, for we, as the Representatives of great and friendly Powers, have thus been led to give solemn promises, in the name of His Shereefian Majesty, and of yourself, to induce the unfortunate Jews to return, engaging that they would be treated with justice and kindness. We have been deceived, and have thereby been led to deceive the Jews who confided in us.

I may here remark that no attention was paid by you to the recommendation of the Italian Minister and myself, that Cid Bubecker should again be sent by order of the Sultan to accompany David Amar and the other members of the deputation on their return to Demnat. I had requested Cid Bubecker to be ready to go to Demnat, should he receive His Majesty's orders to that effect, but he informs me, as also does David Amar, who had written to him to urge that he should come, that His Majesty had not authorized him to return to that town. Had the order of His Majesty been given to Bubecker to accompany the Jewish deputation on their return, it is more than probable that the Governor, his dependents, and the Mahomedan population would not have ventured to commit the outrages which they are reported to have committed.

It will be my painful duty to submit to Her Majesty's Government all the correspondence that has taken place with you upon this subject, and to await their instructions before I take any further step. I trust that before I receive their reply some substantial and satisfactory proof may be spontaneously given of His Majesty's displeasure at and

* See Inclosure 2.

† Military expedition.

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§ Lieutenant-Governor.

† See Inclosure 3.

|| See Inclosure 1.

entire disapproval of the tyrannical conduct of the Governor, and of his marked disobedience of His Majesty's orders by his removal. If this is not done, I will not conceal from you that the impression which may be left on the minds of all who read the correspondence will be that I and the other Representatives have been egregiously deceived by your assurances, and that the Governor of Demnat would never have ventured to act with such manifest disobedience, had he not received covert support in his misdeeds.

In conclusion, I have to express my confidence in the generous and humane sentiments which are known to animate His Shereefian Majesty towards his Jewish subjects, and I am therefore led to expect that His Majesty will spontaneously take decided steps to chastise those authorities who have been guilty of disobedience, and have acted in a manner to bring disgrace upon His Majesty's Government in the eyes of the civilized world, and to estrange the friendship of foreign Powers, which it is His Majesty's anxious desire to cultivate and cement.

I implore His Shereefian Majesty to take immediate steps to insure the safety of those Jews who have fled from the cruel persecution of the Governor of Demnat, and generally of the Jewish population of that town.

Ramadan 28, 1302.

(Signed)

J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 12.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 55. Confidential.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 54 of this date, reporting fresh outrages committed on the Jews of Demnat, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, with the view of insuring the note I addressed the Vizier being brought to the knowledge of the Sultan,* I have sent, through His Majesty's Chamberlain, a Memorandum, marked Secret, of which I inclose a translation, to be delivered into His Majesty's hands.

I have been confidentially informed from a trustworthy source that the Vizier, El Mukhtar, has received bribes† to a very large amount from the Governor of Demnat during the late inquiry into his conduct by the Commissioners Bubeker and Corcos, and that the Vizier had consequently supported the Governor, and led His Shereefian Majesty to believe that the accusations made against him were unfounded or exaggerated. The Jew Corcos, who is largely in debt to the Government, was selected by the Vizier on that account as Commissioner, with directions to report in favour of the Governor.

It is evident that the Vizier induced the Sultan not to send Bubeker a second time to Demnat, fearing that he would transmit a truthful Report regarding the claims and grievances of the Jews against their tyrannical Governor, and support them in their demands for justice and compensation.

I will not conceal from your Lordship that I think also that M. Féraud, during his visit to the Court, gave but luke-warm support to the Jewish deputation—in fact, they wrote confidentially to that effect to their co-religionists in Tangier—and that M. Féraud sought rather to meet the views of the Vizier, his object being, I suppose, to curry favour with that functionary, so that he might obtain his support in the negotiation which he (M. Féraud) had in hand regarding the frontier or other questions of importance. I have reason also to believe that M. Féraud, instead of supporting the recommendation of the Italian Minister and of myself that Bubeker should again be sent as Commissioner to Demnat to watch proceedings and see that justice was done to the Jews, may have held language regarding Bubeker which enabled the Vizier to induce the Sultan not to send him the order to proceed to Demnat, as we had requested.

Shortly before M. Féraud left for the Court, I received information from a trustworthy source that M. Montfraix, the Secretary of the French Legation, had told his chief that Bubeker kept a house of ill-fame in the City of Morocco, and that, as he was said to be a confidential agent of mine, he ought not to be employed as Commissioner.

I had heard some years ago that the above-mentioned charge had been put forward against Cid Bubeker, and I caused an inquiry to be made, and found that the report had originated from the fact of his having bought from the late Vizier, El Yamany, a large building which had been used by the Government as a barrack for troops, who were wont to bring prostitutes into their quarters. Cid Bubeker is, I believe, the richest man in the

* See Inclosure 6 in No. 11.

† Said to be 100,000 dollars or more.—J. H. D. H.

City of Morocco, and it is absurd to suppose that he could have sought to make money in such a disgraceful manner. On my lately informing Cid Bubeker that this accusation had again been put forward he sent an indignant denial, referring me to past correspondence and to the Sultan's Secretary, Cid Mohammed ben Suleyman, now at Tangier, who has a residence in Morocco.

As Bubeker has on various occasions rendered services to British interests, and affords me occasionally valuable information of what is occurring in the country and at the Court, there is great jealousy of him, both on the part of some of the foreign officials here and also of members of the Moorish Government.

If copies of my despatch No. 54 and letter to the Vizier are communicated to the Anglo-Jewish Association, as was done with my previous Reports on the Demnat question, which were published in one of the Jewish journals of London, and subsequently copied into the local papers here, I have to recommend that the letter addressed to me by Cid Bubeker should not be communicated to them,* though there would be no objection to the publication of the letter addressed to him by the Rabbi Amar,† which shows how he and his co-religionists looked upon Cid Bubeker as their friend, and hoped he would have been again sent by the Sultan to aid them. If Cid Bubeker's letter were published, as it reflects upon the conduct of this Government, certain parties here would, no doubt, send a translation to the Vizier, who would probably seek an opportunity to revenge himself.

In the Memorandum, it will be observed, I take the opportunity of letting the Sultan know that the Vizier has neglected to reply to the letters I have addressed him, or to those I have addressed the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, which were forwarded to the Court: promises made about the revision of the Commercial Convention; permission for the landing of a telegraphic cable; request that the Mersey Steamship Company should be granted a coal-store at Mogador, like the grant made to the French Company of Paquet; and numerous claims of British subjects are left pending and unattended to.

In a leading article in the "Débats," by Charmes, who accompanied M. Féraud to the Court at Fez, he remarked that late events in the East had caused the English name and influence to have fallen greatly in the eyes of the Sultan and his Government. There is much truth in this, if I am to judge by the inattention and apathy which the Vizier and Cid Mohammed Bargash evince on any questions I may have to address them.

From a separate despatch‡ your Lordship will learn that I have informed the Vizier that it will not be convenient for Her Majesty's Government to receive the Envoy the Sultan proposes to send at the present time, and, in course of conversation with the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, I have distinctly told him that until more practical proofs are given of the Sultan's friendly feeling towards the British Government and people, it will be perfectly useless to send an Envoy to make empty professions. "Fulfil your promises," I added; "show that you earnestly desire to improve the commercial relations between the two countries, and to develop the resources of this Empire, and then the Sultan's Envoy will receive a friendly welcome from the Queen, and from Her Majesty's Government."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Memorandum by Sir J. Drummond Hay for the Sultan of Morocco.

Tangier, July 11, 1885.

(Translation.)

HIS Shereefian Majesty is begged to be pleased to give His Majesty's attention to the letter I have addressed the Vizier on the subject of the cruel treatment of the Jews of Demnat. His Majesty's orders have been disobeyed. The Shereefian Edict granting protection to the Rabbi, David Amar, has been disregarded and treated with contempt, for he, as also the Jews who accompanied him, have been beaten and robbed on their arrival at Demnat. The assurances given and engagements entered into by the Vizier in His Majesty's name have been broken.

His Shereefian Majesty, in his wisdom, prompted by feelings of justice and benevolence which distinguish His Majesty, will, I am persuaded, take decided steps to

* Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

† Inclosure 5 in No. 11.

‡ See No. 13.

mark His Majesty's displeasure, otherwise this affair will leave a most baneful impression on the minds of the British and all foreign Governments and people, and tend to diminish the friendly interest hitherto taken in the welfare of His Shereefian Majesty.

I take this opportunity of making known to His Majesty the dissatisfaction of Her Majesty's Government that so little attention is paid to my representations in behalf of British interests, and that the promises repeatedly made to me have not been fulfilled.

The Vizier is in possession of the list of affairs not settled, and of letters addressed to him and to Hadj Mohammed Torres which remain unanswered. I have the honour to beg that His Shereefian Majesty, who has always been animated by feelings of friendship towards the British Government and myself, will be pleased to direct that replies of a satisfactory character be sent without further delay.

His Majesty, in his wisdom, has recently declared that he desires to renew and strengthen the ties of friendship existing between the two Governments and people, but the conduct of His Majesty's advisers tends to loosen those ancient ties, which no one can deplore more than the Undersigned, who has always been a true friend and well-wisher of His Shereefian Majesty.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 13.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 56.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 13, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 46 and 47 of the 10th ultimo, reporting the wish of the Sultan to send an Envoy to England, and to your Lordship's despatch No. 30 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter I have addressed the Vizier requesting him to make known to His Shereefian Majesty that it would not be convenient for the Queen to receive the Envoy at the present time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

Ramadan 27 (July 11, 1885).

WITH reference to your letter of the 19th Shâban (3rd June) announcing the intention of His Shereefian Majesty to dispatch an Envoy to the Court of my Gracious Sovereign, the Queen of Great Britain, and to my reply, I have to acquaint you that I have received a communication from the Marquis of Salisbury, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that it would be inconvenient for Her Majesty to receive the Envoy at the present time.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 14.

*The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. S. Lumley.**

(No. 194.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 22, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch, as marked in the margin,† from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, relative to the departure of the Moorish Mission from that capital.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

* Also to Sir J. Drummond Hay (No. 34).

† No. 8.

No. 15.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 659.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 24, 1885.

WITH reference to Lord Granville's despatch No. 752 of the 6th August, 1883, to Mr. Plunkett, I have to state that Messrs. Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone have again called attention to their claim on account of losses incurred by them at Gabes in June 1881, when their warehouses are stated to have been pillaged by Arab insurgents.

I have to request your Excellency to remind the French Government that no reply has been returned to the inquiry made by Her Majesty's Government in August 1883, respecting the provision made for meeting such claims.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 16.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 58.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 17, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 54 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Cid Mohammed Ben Suleyman, one of the Sultan's Secretaries, at present residing at Tangier, has received a letter from the Vizier, dated the 24th Ramadan (8th July), acquainting him that His Shereefian Majesty, having received from the Jewish deputation of Demnat an account of the fresh outrages committed on them on their arrival at that town had expressed extreme displeasure, and had immediately given orders that the Jews of Demnat should be placed under the jurisdiction of the Military Governor of Morocco, Kaid Hameedat-el-Menbahy, that His Majesty had dispatched the Second Usher of his Court, an officer of high rank, to Demnat to carry out these orders and to take measures for procuring the safety of the Jews, and that His Majesty had further directed that the deputation and the Rabbi, David Amar, should proceed to the Court to submit to His Majesty their grievances and claims against the Governor.

When these orders were given the Sultan had not received the letter I had addressed the Vizier.* It is satisfactory, therefore, to learn that His Shereefian Majesty has taken these steps spontaneously.

I am informed by Cid Mohammed Ben Suleyman that he thinks it very probable that when the deputation of Jews submit in person their complaints to His Shereefian Majesty, the Governor of Demnat will be disgraced and placed under arrest.

Cid Hameedat-el-Menbahy, under whose jurisdiction the Jews of Demnat are now placed, is also Governor of the Jews of Saffi and other districts, and is said to be just and humane; no complaint, that I am aware of, has ever been put forward by the Jews against him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 17.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 1.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 25, 1885, 6.25 p.m.

YOUR despatches Nos. 54, 55, and 58, respecting Jews of Demnat received.

Your proceedings are approved. You should press for removal of Governor of Demnat.

No. 18.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 35. Ext. 1.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 25, 1885.

YOUR despatches Nos. 54, 55, and 56, reporting fresh outrages on the Jews of Demnat, and the steps which you have in consequence taken, have been received, and I have to state to you that your proceedings in the matter are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

You have been instructed by telegraph to press for the removal of the Governor of Demnat.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 19.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Baron H. de Worms, M.P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 27, 1885.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th instant, I am directed by Lord Salisbury to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Anglo-Jewish Association, copies of despatches as marked in the margin,* from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, reporting further outrages upon the Jews of Demnat, and the steps which he has in consequence taken.

It would appear from Sir J. D. Hay's latest Report of the 17th instant that the Sultan of Morocco on learning of these outrages at once took steps to insure the safety of the Jews, but Lord Salisbury has nevertheless thought it right in approving Sir J. Hay's proceedings by telegram to instruct him to press for the removal of the Governor of Demnat.

I am to request that you will, after perusing them, communicate the despatches inclosed in this letter to the President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 20.

Viscount Lyons to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 491.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 27, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day addressed a note to the French Government in the terms of your Lordship's despatch No. 659 of the 24th ultimo, relative to the claim of Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone for compensation for the pillage of their stores at Gabes by Arab insurgents.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 21.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 59.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 23, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 32 of the 11th instant, transmitting copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris relative to the affairs of Morocco.

In that despatch I found a duplicate of his Excellency's despatch No. 402 of the 23rd June to your Lordship, but not the two extracts referred to therein; I have seen

* Nos. 11 and 16.

the letters addressed to the "Débats" by M. Gabriel Charmes regarding the state of Morocco and the mission of M. Féraud to the Sultan's Court, but I have not seen the extract from the "France," which comments with virulence upon the alleged suppression of the "Réveil du Maroc" at my instigation.

I have taken no steps to instigate the suppression of the "Réveil du Maroc," or of the other local newspapers, which have been in the habit of making attacks upon me or upon my proceedings; on the contrary, when Cid Mohammed Bargash expressed a second time his desire that steps should be taken to have these local papers suppressed, I suggested that such an extreme step should not be resorted to, but that a warning should be communicated to the editors through Her Majesty's Consul.*

I take this opportunity of placing your Lordship in possession of the translation of a letter addressed to me on the 3rd instant by the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hadj Mohammed Torres, upon this subject, and of a copy of the letter which the Acting British Consul, Mr. Herbert White, addressed to the editors of the three local papers, Mr. Levy Cohen, of the "Réveil du Maroc;" Mr. Meakin, of the "Times of Morocco;" and Mr. Abrines, of the "Moghreb al Aksa." These papers continue to be published as heretofore, and have not been suppressed.

The two former indulge in virulent and mendacious language regarding me, especially the paper edited by Mr. Meakin, so much so that Mr. Abrines, who is the printer of these papers, refused this month to print an article sent him by Mr. Meakin, which he informed me was of a libellous character regarding myself. I declined to see the article, and told Mr. Abrines that I should take no notice of any attack upon my conduct, so long as there was no defamation of character, when I might proceed against the writer, and also against the printer.

Mr. Abrines, the editor of the "Moghreb al Aksa," has been very careful latterly not to introduce into his journal articles which could give offence to this Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Hadj Mohammed Torres to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Ramadan 19, 1302 (July 3, 1885)

WE are aware that you have cognizance of what the Minister, Cid Mohammed Bargash, has written on several occasions regarding the newspapers which contain offensive language respecting His Shereefian Majesty and the officers of this Government and regarding foreign Governments and their Representatives in these dominions, and that Cid Mohammed Bargash had required that these papers should be suppressed. We had, therefore, requested that you should warn the proprietors of these newspapers that they should cease to employ language which may be injurious [to this Government] or which may produce ill-feeling between this and other Governments, but we learn that up till now they have not ceased from their action.

We have, therefore, to request that you send for them, and that you repeat in decided language the warning, and declare that if after this date there should appear articles of an improper character in any one of these papers it will have to be suppressed, and will not be allowed to be printed again or to be distributed in these dominions, and in the same manner any other newspapers [giving grounds for complaint, will be suppressed].

We hold in our possession many of these newspapers to prove our statements and grounds for complaint.

Peace and friendship.

(Signed)

MOHAMMED BEN AL ARBY AL TORRES.

* The first warning was given by Her Majesty's Consul through the printer (see despatch No. 104, of November 16, 1884). A second similar warning was given last June.—J. H. D. H.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Acting Consul White to Editors of Tangier Newspapers.

Sir,

Tangier, July 7, 1885.

I HAVE to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister has received a letter from Hadj Mohammed Torres, the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that Cid Mohammed Bargash had made repeated representations regarding articles that had appeared in the local newspapers containing offensive language respecting His Shereefian Majesty and Moorish officials, as also respecting foreign Representatives in this country, and had requested that these papers should be suppressed.

Hadj Mohammed Torres further states in this letter that, notwithstanding the warnings which have been given, these papers continue to contain articles of a character likely to be injurious to His Shereefian Majesty's Government, and also to produce ill-feeling between them and foreign Powers.

His Excellency therefore requests that you be distinctly warned to be careful for the future to avoid the insertion in any local paper of which you may be the editor of language of a character to justify this Government in taking measures for its suppression.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

N.B.—Similar letters addressed to the editors of the "Times of Morocco" and "Al Moghreb al Aksa."

No. 22.

Sir J. S. Lumley to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 4.)

(No. 159.)

My Lord,

Venice, July 29, 1885.

THE Mission from the Emperor of Morocco to the King of Italy arrived at Genoa yesterday on board the Italian man-of-war "Castelfidardo," and was received with much ceremony.

The Mission consists of two Ambassadors, with a suite of twenty-two persons, and is accompanied by M. Scovasso, Italian Minister at Tangier.

After remaining twelve hours at Genoa the Mission left for Milan, where it will be received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. It is at present uncertain whether the reception by the King will take place at Milan or at Venice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. SAVILE LUMLEY.

P.S. July 30.—The Moorish Mission, which was received by the King at Milan yesterday, arrived this morning at Venice, and was present at the launch of the iron-clad "Morosini," which took place in the presence of the King and Queen and the Crown Prince.

J. S. L.

No. 23.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 60.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 25, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Envoy of the Sultan to the Italian Court, Kaid Bushta-el-Baghdady, accompanied by three other Moorish officials and four Kaid, embarked yesterday evening on board the Italian iron-clad "Castelfidardo," and proceeded to Genoa.

M. Scovasso, the Italian Minister, and M. Gentile, the Dragoman of the Italian Legation, accompany the Mission to Italy.

M. Tesi, the Italian Consul at Gibraltar, takes temporary charge of the Italian Legation here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 24.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 61.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 28, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 1 of yesterday's date, informing me that your Lordship approves my action in the matter of the fresh outrages on the Jews at Demnat, as reported in my despatches Nos. 54 and 55 of the 13th instant.

Your Lordship further instructs me to continue to urge the Sultan to remove from his post the Governor of that town.

I have the honour to request that all future telegrams that your Lordship may have occasion to send to me be sent by the cable of the Eastern Telegraph Company, for when sent by the Government overland wire they generally arrive mutilated and, as in this case, undecypherable in portions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 25.

Sir J. Walsham to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 8.)

(No. 520.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 7, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the reply which has been received from the French Government to the note addressed to them on the 27th ultimo, as recorded in Lord Lyons' No. 491 of the same date, relative to the claim of Messrs. Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone, on account of losses alleged to have been sustained by them at Gabes in June 1881.

On the receipt of Lord Lyons' representation the French Government, it appears from M. de Freycinet's note, requested their Resident at Tunis to report upon the case, and they have learnt from him that several claims of a similar category have been advanced by persons of various nationalities, but that the Tunisian Government have not considered that there was an obligation on their part to entertain any of them, seeing that all these claims originated in acts which were the result of war or insurrection, and that, consequently, no indemnity could be properly demanded.

The French note goes on to say that Messrs. Tabone are, after all, not in a worse position in this respect than the subjects of other nations, including French, who are resident at Gabes and suffered from the effects of the insurrection; and the French Government feel sure that Her Majesty's Government will be ready to admit that exceptional treatment in favour of Messrs. Tabone could hardly be submitted through the French Resident to the Tunisian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Inclosure in No. 25.

M. de Freycinet to Sir J. Walsham.

M. le Ministre,

Paris, le 6 Août, 1885.

PAR une lettre en date du 27 Juillet dernier, Lord Lyons a bien voulu appeler mon attention sur une réclamation transmise à l'un de mes prédécesseurs par le Chargé d'Affaires du Gouvernement Britannique à Paris, au nom de deux Maltais, les Sieurs Salvatore et Emmanuele Tabone. Ces négociants voudraient obtenir du Gouvernement Tunisien une indemnité en raison de dommages matériels qu'ils auraient subis à Gabès au mois de Juin 1881.

Le Résident du Gouvernement à Tunis que j'avais prié de me renseigner à ce sujet, vient de me faire savoir que l'Administration indigène a reçu, en effet, un certain nombre de réclamations de même origine, formulées par des personnes appartenant à des nationalités diverses; mais elle s'est trouvée dans l'obligation d'opposer une même fin de non recevoir à toutes ces demandes fondées sur des faits de guerre ou sur des

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actes insurrectionnels qui, selon les principes du droit international, ne donnent pas droit à indemnité.

Dans l'état actuel de ses finances, le Gouvernement Tunisien ne saurait songer à imposer à son Trésor de nouvelles charges pour assurer la réparation des dommages subis à la suite d'événements, dont il n'a cessé, conformément aux règles du droit public, de décliner la responsabilité.

Quant à la déclaration d'après laquelle les pétitionnaires auraient remis la clef de leurs magasins à notre Agent Consulaire à Gabès, elle a été contredite par ce dernier dans les termes les plus formels.

En définitive, les Sieurs Tabone se trouvent dans la même situation que tous les résidents de Gabès, Français ou autres, qui ont eu à souffrir de l'insurrection. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique reconnaîtra, j'en suis persuadé, qu'il ne nous est pas possible d'insister auprès de l'Administration Tunisienne pour leur faire attribuer, par voie d'exception, un traitement de faveur.

Agréer, &c.
(Signé) DE FREYCINET.

No. 26.

Mr. Löwy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

100, Sutherland Gardens, London, August 12, 1885.
WITH regard to the despatches concerning the Jews of Demnat (Morocco), which your Lordship was kind enough, on the 27th July, to forward through Baron H. de Worms to the London Committee of Deputies of British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association, the Representatives of these two bodies desire to tender to you their sincere thanks for the humane and energetic manner in which Her Majesty's Government, represented by Sir John Drummond Hay, have employed their good offices to put a stop to the barbarous proceedings of the Governor of Demnat by urging upon the Sultan of Morocco that that Governor be dismissed.

The remarkable vigour with which Sir John Drummond Hay has acted in this matter will, it is hoped, discourage the recurrence of similar cruelties, and may have the effect both of bringing the satellites of the Governor of Demnat to condign punishment, and of procuring complete redress for the persons injured by the successive barbarities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. LÖWY, Secretary.

No. 27.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Sir R. Herbert.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 14, 1885.
I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to request you to inform the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo concerning the claim of E. and S. Tabone for compensation on account of the destruction of their property at Gabès, that an answer has now been received from the French Government on this subject.

M. de Freycinet states that the Representative of the French Government in Tunis, to whom he referred this claim, informs him that many similar applications for compensation have been addressed to the Tunisian Government, and that it has been found impossible to entertain them. His Excellency goes on to say that the state of the Tunisian finances entirely precludes the imposition of fresh charges with the object of discharging all the claims put forward for losses incurred by reason of acts of insurrection, for which the Tunisian Government, in accordance with international law, have declined any responsibility, and he adds that such acts do not afford any ground for indemnity. He observes, moreover, that the Consular Agent for France at Gabès has given a most formal denial to the statement of the petitioners, that the keys of their warehouses were confided to his charge.

Finally, M. de Freycinet points out that Messrs. E. and S. Tabone are not in a worse position than many other French and foreign residents at Gabès who have

suffered from this insurrection, and his Excellency expresses his conviction that in these circumstances Her Majesty's Government will be ready to admit that the French Government cannot press the Tunisian Administration to show exceptional favour to the above-named claimants.

The original inclosures in Messrs. Tabone's Petition are herewith returned.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 28.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 15.)

(No. 63.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 6, 1885.

I THINK it my duty to place your Lordship in possession of the accompanying copy of a despatch I have addressed the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Vienna, requesting that his Excellency should not wait until next year, when I retire from Her Majesty's service, on attaining the age of 70, but should at once appoint an officer to take charge of the interests of Austria-Hungary in Morocco.

For thirty years I have held the post of Political Agent-General for Austria-Hungary with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, and I have had the good fortune to have enjoyed the confidence and approval of the several Ministers at Vienna under whom I have had the honour to serve in that capacity.

The post of Unpaid Commercial Consul of Austria-Hungary at Tangier has been held for the last twenty years by Dr. Schmidl, who is an Austrian subject, of the Hebrew persuasion.

This person, who is engaged in commercial and agricultural pursuits, has frequently caused me much trouble and vexatious questions on account of his personal interests and dealings with the natives, and I have been compelled on more than one occasion to report his conduct to the Imperial and Royal Government.

In the year 1868, the Austrian Consul-General, Calici, and Admiral Baron de Petz were sent to Tangier by the Imperial and Royal Government to inquire into Dr. Schmidl's conduct. He was censured, and directed to sign a document, which I hold, declaring that for the future he would submit to my authority and obey my instructions.

For some time he ceased to give trouble, but of late years, especially since he formed an intimate friendship with the late French Minister, M. Ordega, he has caused me much annoyance by his proceedings.

In another despatch addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Vienna, of the same date as that inclosed, I transmitted a précis of the bulky correspondence I have had with Dr. Schmidl and with the Moorish authorities, and of other communications on the subject of the complaint I have made against him for insubordinate conduct, and for the offensive language he has addressed to me.

I also transmitted to the Imperial and Royal Government copy of the proceedings at the Court of Inquiry I had held in consequence of the numerous complaints which had been made against Dr. Schmidl by Moors whom he had employed in agricultural pursuits.

Dr. Schmidl quitted the Court abruptly during the inquiry, and sent me a strange protest, of which I transmit a translation, accusing me of conspiring with other persons to injure him.

This charge, my Lord, I need hardly say, is unfounded and false, and I have no doubt that the Imperial and Royal Government will afford me the satisfaction I am entitled to expect on that account.

I have signified to the Imperial and Royal Government that I trust, whatever decision they may come to, that under no circumstances I shall again be placed in communication with Dr. Schmidl, or have to continue an inquiry into the accusations made against him by Moorish subjects; but your Lordship will observe that I express my readiness to continue to take charge of the interests of Austria-Hungary until my successor arrives; and I also state that, should the Imperial and Royal Government so desire, I shall be happy to afford my successor every assistance in my power in his relations with this Government and with the local authorities on his arrival.

One of my chief objections to continue any further inquiry into the conduct of the Imperial and Royal Consul is that I believe he has been enabled to obtain all kinds of documentary evidence in his favour to prove that the unfortunate Moorish peasantry

whom he has employed, and whose land he has been enabled to get possession of, have no rightful claims against him. The facility with which persons in authority, like a foreign Consul or wealthy native, can obtain notarial documents of every kind on paying for them is notorious and most lamentable in this corrupt country; but the conviction of myself, and of all who have heard the complaints of the wretched natives, who have not been paid for their labour, or who have been dispossessed of their lands, is that they are well founded.

I further inclose the translation of a letter addressed to me by the subjects of Austria-Hungary, the only residents of that nation in this country who were present at the inquiry.

I have ventured to trouble your Lordship with this long report upon a subject which is of but little interest to Her Majesty's Government, but as I have observed that the foreign press, both at Vienna and London, have alluded to this question, I thought it desirable that your Lordship should be placed in possession of the chief facts of the case, should it give rise to an interpellation in the House.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Count Kálnoky.

M. le Ministre,

COMME suite à ma dépêche en date de ce jour dans laquelle j'ai eu l'honneur d'adresser à votre Excellence un rapport pour lui dénoncer l'insubordination et la conduite étrange du Consul Impérial et Royal, le Chevalier Dr. Schmidl, ainsi que le langage offensant qu'il a cru pouvoir employer vis-à-vis de moi, spécialement dans la protestation qu'il m'a adressée le 22 de ce mois, j'ai l'honneur de faire connaître à votre Excellence que dans le courant de Juin prochain j'aurai atteint l'âge de 70 ans et que, d'après les Règlements du Service Diplomatique Anglais, mes fonctions officielles au Maroc prenant fin, je compte retourner en Angleterre.

Dans ces circonstances, j'ai l'honneur de soumettre à votre Excellence avec toute la déférence que lui est due la question de savoir s'il ne serait pas désirable, vu la position équivoque dans laquelle m'ont placé tant vis-à-vis du Gouvernement Marocain que des autorités locales la conduite et les procédés incorrects du Consul Dr. Schmidl, que le fonctionnaire qui sera désigné pour me remplacer comme Représentant d'Autriche-Hongrie soit nommé avant l'expiration de mon mandat comme Ministre de la Grande-Bretagne, afin que, dorénavant, je sois débarrassé de toute juridiction dans des questions où le Consul se trouve mêlé et que je ne sois plus forcé d'entretenir avec lui aucune espèce de relation. La décision des difficultés pendantes serait alors entièrement placée sous la surveillance du Représentant Impérial et Royal qu'il vous plaira de choisir pour me succéder.

Je saisis cette occasion pour exprimer au Gouvernement Impérial et Royal le vœu qu'il ne continue pas à confier ses intérêts politiques aux mains de l'Agent d'une autre Puissance, mais qu'il nomme ici, ainsi que l'ont fait l'Allemagne et les autres Grandes Puissances sauf la Russie, un Ministre et Consul-Général.

Je n'ignore pas que pour le moment les intérêts commerciaux de l'Autriche-Hongrie dans ce pays sont de peu d'importance et qu'il y réside un très petit nombre de sujets Impérial et Royal, mais, d'un autre côté, le Maroc, à cause de la position dominante de son littoral sur la Méditerranée et dans le Déroit de Gibraltar, par lequel les navires de toutes les nations sont forcés de passer pour se rendre en Orient, sera toujours un pays qui offrira nécessairement un grand intérêt pour les Puissances et spécialement pour celles qui ont des ports dans la Méditerranée.

Le territoire du Maroc est aussi étendu que celui de l'Espagne ou de la France; ses ressources sont immenses, le sol en est riche, le climat tempéré et la généralité de la population appartient à une belle race, douée de beaucoup de bonnes qualités. C'est cette même race qui a jadis conquis l'Espagne et enseigné au monde civilisé bien des choses dans le domaine des arts et des sciences.

L'état actuel du Maroc est déplorable, le peuple est réduit à la misère par l'oppression et les exactions de ses gouvernants. Les Pachas et les autres fonctionnaires ne reçoivent aucun salaire et le Gouvernement du pays est basé sur le système de la corruption.

Malgré les conseils amicaux que je n'ai cessé de leur donner de même que les

Tanger, le 25 Juillet, 1885.

autres Représentants des Puissances, le Sultan et ses Ministres sont opposés à toute réforme et à toute amélioration aussi bien qu'au développement du commerce par l'abolition des entraves qui s'opposent actuellement à son progrès.

Le jour ne peut être éloigné, toutefois, où cet état de choses éprouvera une amélioration notable et, dans ce cas, grâce aux richesses et aux ressources qu'il possède, le Maroc est appelé à devenir un pays important pour toutes les autres nations, non seulement au point de vue politique, mais aussi au point de vue commercial.

Je me permets donc de renouveler ma recommandation et d'engager de nouveau à ce que mon successeur soit un employé choisi parmi le Corps Diplomatique Austro-Hongrois.

En même temps que j'offre respectueusement ma résignation à votre Excellence je désire lui exprimer combien je me suis senti hautement honoré d'avoir été chargé pendant trente années de la défense des intérêts Austro-Hongrois et d'avoir également eu la bonne fortune de jouir de la confiance des différents Ministres des Affaires Étrangères d'Autriche-Hongrie sous lesquels j'ai eu l'honneur de servir.

J'ai toujours rencontré de la part de votre Excellence aussi bien que de ses prédécesseurs la considération et l'appui les plus courtois. Je prie en conséquence votre Excellence de vouloir bien exprimer ma profonde gratitude envers le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal. Je suis tout disposé à continuer à gérer les affaires de l'Agence Générale jusqu'à ce qu'il convienne à votre Excellence de désigner mon successeur, et je prends la liberté d'ajouter que je considère comme mon devoir, à l'arrivée de celui-ci, de lui rendre tous les services possibles pour lui faciliter son entrée en fonctions.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—Pour ce qui concerne la conduite passée du Consul Impérial et Royal, Dr. Schmidl, et les plaintes que j'ai été dans le cas de devoir adresser à son sujet au Gouvernement Impérial et Royal, j'ai l'honneur de me référer particulièrement à la dépêche du Ministre des Affaires Étrangères en date du 26 Août, 1869, et au document qui s'y trouve annexé et qui est revêtu de la signature du Consul, ainsi qu'à la lettre du Contre-Amiral Baron de Petz qui a été chargé de faire une enquête sur sa conduite, document dont j'ai en soin d'envoyer copie au Gouvernement Impérial et Royal. Je ne veux point rappeler à cette occasion les dépêches dans lesquelles j'ai exprimé ma désapprobation de la conduite du Consul et exposé son inaptitude à remplir les fonctions officielles dont il est investi.

J. H. D. H.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Protest of Dr. Schmidl.

(Translation.)

IN the name of His Most High and Catholic Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia:

In the name of the Austrian and Hungarian laws:

In the name of justice and right, and for the dignity and prestige and also for the defence of the Treaty rights and prerogatives of the Austrian Consulate:

And also on account of the rights and privileges accorded me by His Most High and Mighty Majesty, Protector of this Imperial and Royal Consulate, and on account of the undeniable rights and immunities enjoyed by me as an humble and loyal Austrian citizen:

I protest with all my energy against the secret and underhand measures taken against me by the Austrian Agent-General, Sir John Drummond Hay, and his coadjutors, with a view to my abasement and detriment, which measures are entirely illegal; and I do further vehemently declare the said Austrian Agent-General, Sir John Drummond Hay, and his aforesaid coadjutors, to be responsible for all and any damages and injuries resulting from aforesaid conspiracies, and for all losses or damages which may affect me or my family or my servants, or which may affect or depreciate my personal property or real estate.

Given under my hand and Consular seal, this 22nd day of July, 1885.

(L.S.) (Signed) MAXIMILIAN SCHMIDL,
Imperial and Royal Consul.

Inclosure 3 in No. 28.

Letter addressed to Sir J. Drummond Hay by Austrian Subjects in Morocco.

(Translation.)

Your Excellency,

Tangier, July 23, 1885.

WE, the undersigned Austrian subjects, residing in Tangier, beg to express our sense of obligation on account of your Excellency's impartial investigation into the charges brought against Dr. Maximilian Schmidl, the Imperial and Royal Consul, for certain alleged abuses, illegal acts, as well as the overbearing and insolent behaviour which renders all transactions with that official so peculiarly disagreeable. We, moreover, beg to express our regret that, despite your Excellency's evident desire to accede to Dr. Schmidl's wishes concerning the exclusion of the representatives of certain English and German newspapers, besides various other important concessions made to Dr. Schmidl during the investigation, you should have been generally exposed to the offensive behaviour of Consul Schmidl, who not only insulted one of the native soldiers at your Excellency's gate, but, forgetting both the official and personal decorum necessary, defied your Excellency's wishes, actually leaving the room where the inquiry was being held without the leave of the Court, thus denying your Excellency's jurisdiction or right to hold the inquiry, which we understand took place at Dr. Schmidl's own request, as well as at our demand as Austrian subjects, desiring as we did that the charges and allegations so frequently brought against our Consul by natives and others should be either formally disproved or that the Consular exequatur might be removed from incompetent and unworthy hands.

With renewed expressions of our gratitude for your Excellency's considerate attention to our interests, and for the solicitude displayed on behalf of the good respect of the Austrian Imperial and Royal Consulate, we beg to remain, &c.

Signed)

RAFFL, *Rentier.*MENSBURGER, *Ingénieur Civil.*JOSEPH GUMPERT, *Chef Gardien*
*du Phare Spartel.*J. R. GUMPERT, *Horloger.*FRANZ GUMPERT, *Peintre.*

No. 29.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 17.)

(No. 64.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 10, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizier Mokhtar, stating that the reason why the Sultan is anxious that his Envoy should proceed to England without delay is that His Majesty, having heard that my term of office is about to expire, is desirous to express to Her Majesty's Government, before I leave, his appreciation of my conduct in the maintenance of friendly relations between the two Governments, &c.

The object, I suppose, of the Sultan in directing the Vizier to address me this letter is that I shall thus be induced to suggest to your Lordship the advisability of the Queen receiving the Envoy without further question, for I am given to understand, through persons connected with the Court, that the Sultan proposes that his Envoy should request that I be allowed to continue as Her Majesty's Representative in this country even after June next year, when I shall have attained the age of 70, and am required, according to the regulations of the Diplomatic Service, to retire.

If this supposition be correct, and such an appeal be made, I wish to assure your Lordship that it will be done without my consent, for I have no hesitation in stating that, after forty-six years of active service and residence abroad, I am looking forward with pleasure to return to England next year and to be at rest, more especially since I find that the Sultan and his advisers, notwithstanding their professions of friendship, have not latterly attended properly to my representations or counsels on matters affecting the interests of British subjects.

I have the honour to transmit a translation of my reply to the Vizier, in which I mention that I shall transmit his Excellency's communication to your Lordship.

Under these circumstances, and if, as I suppose, Her Majesty's Government have no

desire at the present time to receive the Moorish Envoy, whose mission, as far as I can learn, will be chiefly to present horses and other gifts, as has been done in Paris and Rome, and to give assurances of friendship, I beg to suggest that I be directed to reply that the Queen fully appreciates the friendly sentiments which animate the Sultan in his desire to send the Envoy, but that, at the present time, it would not be convenient for Her Majesty to receive the Mission; that, moreover, Her Majesty's Government consider it desirable that the visit of the Envoy be deferred until the negotiation for the revision of the Convention of Commerce, as promised by the Sultan, has been concluded or is progressing in a manner satisfactory to both parties; until the promised consent of the Sultan to the laying of the cable between Gibraltar and Tangier has been given; and the claims of British subjects which are still pending have been settled. That when all these matters are concluded in a satisfactory manner the Envoy will be welcomed, and the assurances he may be directed to give of the Sultan's desire to cement the ancient ties of friendship between the two Governments will then become most acceptable, and be fully reciprocated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 29.

Vizier Mokhtar to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

16 Shawal, 1302 (July 29, 1885).

AMONGST other reasons for hastening the departure of the Envoy to your powerful Government is that which has been heard of the intention of your esteemed Government to allow you to retire from the service, the term being concluded when an honourable repose is permitted; His Shereefian Majesty was therefore desirous of dispatching the Envoy before your departure from this country, that he may express to your Government His Majesty's appreciation of the excellent manner in which you have conducted the relations between the two Governments, seeking to promote the friendship of the two parties, and to maintain amity and a good understanding; His Majesty therefore desires to thank your Government for having accredited a judicious person like yourself, noted for that good-will and honourable conduct which have rendered your position illustrious.

All this proceeds from His Shereefian Majesty's friendship for you, Oh faithful counsellor, and from his wish to make public this friendship towards you.

Finished 16th Shawal, 1302.

(Signed)

MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBI BEN EL MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 29.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier Mokhtar.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, August 10, 1885.

I HAVE received your letter of the 16th Shawal (29th July), informing me that His Shereefian Majesty had directed you to acquaint me that one of the chief reasons why His Shereefian Majesty is anxious that the Envoy to Her Majesty the Queen should proceed without further delay on his mission is that, having heard of my approaching departure from Morocco, His Majesty is desirous of expressing to Her Majesty's Government, before I leave, his appreciation of my conduct as Her Majesty's Representative, and of the manner in which I have sought to maintain the friendly relations existing between the two Governments.

I request you to convey to His Shereefian Majesty the expression of my satisfaction and gratitude for the very handsome and friendly manner in which His Shereefian Majesty has been pleased to express himself regarding me.

I have had the honour of being accredited to His Majesty's grandsire and sire and to His Majesty during forty-five years, and I have never ceased to receive many proofs of the esteem and friendship with which they have been pleased to regard me, but I will not conceal from your Excellency that, during the last two years, I have not met with that attention to my representations and counsels, when seeking to promote the commercial relations between the two countries, as also the welfare of His Majesty's

subjects, which the assurances of friendship and good-will on the part of His Shereefian Majesty would entitle me to expect.

As my anxious desire and aim have always been to uphold the independence of His Majesty, and to promote the welfare of His Majesty's subjects, it will be a source of unceasing regret, when I leave this country, that the counsels regarding the steps I had recommended should be taken to improve the trade of Morocco with Great Britain, and with all Europe, have not been listened to.

It should be borne in mind that the friendship of nations is not based on mere sentiment, but upon the mutual advantages which each derive from commercial and friendly intercourse, and from interests in commerce. Amity between one nation and another, and an interest in the mutual welfare of each other, will wane and fade away when these simple maxims are disregarded.

In conclusion, I beg to repeat, through your Excellency, my grateful acknowledgments to His Shereefian Majesty for the gracious and favourable manner in which His Majesty has been pleased to mention my services, and to assure His Shereefian Majesty that no one has more at heart His Majesty's welfare and the prosperity of his subjects than I have.

I shall communicate to Her Majesty's Government without delay the letter your Excellency has addressed me.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.
Shawwal 28, 1302 (August 10, 1885).

No. 30.

(No. 41.) The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Sir, HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your despatch No. 64 of the 10th instant, forwarding translation of a note from the Vizier Mokhtar, which explains the reasons that induce the Sultan of Morocco to desire that Her Majesty's Envoy should proceed to this country without delay, and suggesting the terms of an answer which might be returned to his Excellency's communication; and I have now to inform you that you are authorized to reply to the Vizier in the sense which you propose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 31.

Acting Consul Malmusi to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 24.)

(No. 23.)
My Lord,

IN obedience to the request contained in Under-Secretary Sir Julian Pauncefote's despatch, dated the 23rd June, 1885, transmitting to this office copy of a letter from M. Giuseppe Pace, having reference to the inquiry recently held at Sfax into the circumstances of the murder of his son, I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the *procès-verbal* in Italian, a translation of same into English, a copy of the correspondence between this office and the British Vice-Consul at Sfax, as also a copy of that between this office and the French Residency.

I cannot see that Giuseppe Pace has any cause of complaint with regard to Dr. Arpa's action in this affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. MALMUSI.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)
Sir,

Tunis, January 26, 1885.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 23rd instant. With regard to Giuseppe Pace's case, I inclose herewith copy of the instructions given to the Vice-Governor of Sfax by the Prime Minister of his Highness the Bey.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Vice-Consul Leonardi to Dr. Arpa.

(Translation.)
(Telegraphic.)

Sfax, February 16, 1885.

THE inquiry has not commenced yet, as Pace asks for a delay of a few other days in order to look for witnesses.

Inclosure 3 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)
(Telegraphic.)

Tunis, March 9, 1885.

INFORM Giuseppe Pace that, as the inquiry is to be made by the Khalifa, the witnesses are to be examined by him.

Inclosure 4 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)
(Telegraphic.)

Tunis, March 15, 1885.

HAVE the witnesses, British subjects, brought before the Khalifa.

Inclosure 5 in No. 31.

Vice-Consul Leonardi to Dr. Arpa.

(Translation.)
Sir,

Sfax, March 20, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to report that the inquiry in Pace's case has commenced a few days ago. Up to date two sittings have taken place, when the charge was written out and a note taken of Pace's declarations regarding the steps taken by him for the proceedings.

The accused will be brought before the Court in the next sitting in order to be questioned.

In the meantime, I am taking care to have a copy of all the proceedings made out, that I may forward it to you as soon as the inquiry is closed.

The *procès-verbal* of each sitting is being made in two copies, signed by the Khalifa, myself, and Pace.

The Vice-Governor pretends to have the witnesses, British subjects, sworn by me at the Driba (Criminal Court).

Please telegraph whether I should comply with his request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIUS. LEONARDI.

Inclosure 6 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)
(Telegraphic.)

Tunis, March 23, 1885.

ASSIST at the inquiry. You may administer the oath to the witnesses.

Inclosure 7 in No. 31.

Vice-Consul Leonardi to Dr. Arpa.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Sfax, March 26, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, dated the 23rd instant.

In conformity with your instructions, I shall continue to assist at the inquiry, as I have indefatigably done up to the present.

When required, I shall also administer the oath to the witnesses (British subjects).

Till the present we have had five sittings, at the last of which witnesses appeared against some of the accused, and it seems that the charges against them have been proved. Notwithstanding this, the accused are still at liberty, and the Vice-Governor has not up to the present taken steps for their arrest, or at least to have them give bail.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GIUS. LEONARDI.

Inclosure 8 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tunis, April 13, 1885.

PACE has written about the inquiry. Please confirm.

Inclosure 9 in No. 31.

Vice-Consul Leonardi to Dr. Arpa.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Sfax, April 14, 1885.

I AM not informed of the contents of Pace's letter. Vice-Governor did not allow to be noted in the *procès-verbal* the evidences which he thought had nothing to do with the principal object of the case. Pace is absent, and Fabri is appearing as his representative.

Inclosure 10 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Tunis, April 21, 1885.

I INCLOSE herewith copy of the letter dated Sfax, 5th instant, addressed to this Consulate by Giuseppe Pace.

Please state whether you have to make any remark on its contents, that I may report the facts therein mentioned to the French Residency.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

F. ARPA.

Inclosure 11 in No. 31.

Vice-Consul Leonardi to Dr. Arpa.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Sfax, April 28, 1885.

WITH reference to your letter, dated the 21st instant, I point out to you my letter of the 26th March and my telegram of the 14th instant, which confirm all what Giuseppe Pace has stated in his letter of the 15th instant.

At present the said Pace demands that M. Achille Borg Olivier be called as witness the second time, that he may be questioned on other matters regarding the conduct of one of the accused, and which the Vice-Governor has so far opposed.

I therefore beg you will apply to whom it may concern, so as to have instructions given to the Vice-Governor for the reappearance before this Court and examination of

Borg Olivier and two others about all that which may serve to illuminate the Court in the present inquiry.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GIUS. LEONARDI.

Inclosure 12 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Vice-Consul Leonardi.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tunis, June 16, 1885.

I HAVE written to the French Minister that the accused may be dealt with according to law. Inform me what questions Pace wished to put to witness Borg Olivier.

Inclosure 13 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to M. Cambon.

Excellency,

Tunis, January 12, 1885.

WITH reference to Baron d'Estournelles' letter of the 28th May, 1884, and, as I understand, to later verbal communications between your Excellency and Mr. Reade on the subject of the murder of Ernesto Pace committed at Sfax, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Mr. Leonardi, the British Vice-Consul at Sfax, writing on the 5th instant, states that, having, as instructed, deceased's father applied [*Qy. read*—"states that, deceased's father having applied as instructed"] to the Khalifa of that place to open an inquiry on the subject, he was met by a refusal on the part of that officer, stating that he had received no instructions in the matter.

I have the honour, therefore, to request that your Excellency may be pleased to urge that the said instructions be given by the Tunisian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

F. ARPA.

Inclosure 14 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to M. Cambon.

Excellency,

Tunis, March 31, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that in a letter addressed to this Office, dated the 26th instant, by Mr. Leonardi, British Vice-Consul at Sfax, that gentleman states that though evidence has been producee at the inquiry now being held before the Vice-Governor of Sfax in reference to the murder of the late Ernesto Pace, the subject of previous correspondence, against some of the accused charged with that murder almost proving their guilt, these men are suffered to remain at large.

I have therefore the honour to request that your Excellency may be pleased to give such instructions, so as to prevent the possibility of the ends of justice being defeated.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

F. ARPA.

Inclosure 15 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to M. Bompard.

Sir,

Tunis, May 5, 1885.

WITH reference to my letter of the 31st March last to M. Cambon concerning the murder of Ernesto Pace committed at Sfax, I have the honour to inform you that the Khalifa of that place, instructed by the Tunisian Government to hold an inquiry into the circumstances of that murder, is not, I am informed by the British Vice-Consul at Sfax, and also by the father of deceased, acting to their satisfaction in conducting the said inquiry. He refuses to recall the witness, Achille Borg, to whom deceased's father wishes to put certain questions bearing on the subject of the murder.

I should be most thankful for any action you may be good enough to take in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure 16 in No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to M. Cambon.

Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received, through the British Vice-Consul at Sfax, copy of the proceedings before the Vice-Governor of Sfax in reference to the murder of Ernesto Pace, a British subject, committed in that place some time ago, from which it would appear that there are several Tunisian subjects seriously implicated in the same, and to request that these men may be brought to trial.

I may be permitted, however, to say that complaints are made to this office by the British Vice-Consul and deceased's father that, though some of the accused are gravely implicated in the deed, they are suffered to remain at large, and that the latter has been prevented by the Vice-Governor to examine certain witnesses which he considered to be important in the case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure 17 in No. 31.

M. Bompard to Dr. Arpa.

M. le Gérant,

J'AI l'honneur de vous communiquer le procès-verbal ci-joint, dressé par le soin du Khalifa de Sfax, assisté de l'Agent Consulaire d'Angleterre, du Sieur Joseph Pace, et de deux notaires, au sujet du meurtre commis sur la personne du Sieur Ernesto Pace lors de l'insurrection de Sfax.

Je vous prie de vouloir bien me faire savoir d'une façon précise quelles sont vos conclusions sur cette affaire et me retourner le procès-verbal pour que le règlement de cette question ait lieu d'une manière définitive.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) M. BOMPARD.

Inclosure 18 in No. 31.

Acting Consul Malmusi to M. Bompard.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

EN réponse à la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser à la date du 30 Juillet dernier, j'ai l'honneur de vous confirmer les demandes contenues dans la note de M. le Dr. Arpa du 15 Juin, 1885.

L'instruction relative au meurtre commis sur la personne du Sieur Ernesto Pace lors de l'insurrection de Sfax étant terminée, il ne reste en effet, d'après moi, qu'à renvoyer les prévenus au Tribunal local compétent, et en attendre le jugement.

En vous restituant le procès-verbal annexé à votre lettre précitée, j'ai l'honneur, &c.
(Signé) G. MALMUSI.

No. 32.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 65.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 58 of the 17th July regarding the Jews of Demnat, I have the honour to inclose the translation of a letter I have received from the Vizier and of my reply.

Tangier, August 20, 1885.

I communicated to the French Minister and to the Italian Chargé d'Affaires this correspondence, and they informed me they would also write to the Vizier to urge that Kaid Jelaly should be removed from the Government of Demnat.

The United States' Consul-General having informed me that he had received instructions from his Government to act in concert with me in this matter, I communicated to him also the draft of the letter I have addressed the Vizier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

7 Showal, 1302 (July 20, 1885).

WE have received your letter on the subject of what David Amar of Demnat wrote to you regarding the conduct of the Governor of that town towards him and those Jews who were with him, as related in his letter to you, of which you transmitted us a copy, and we have learnt what you point out as to putting a stop to these acts of injustice to the Jews.

We communicated to the Sultan your letter, which he has had under his consideration, and His Shereefian Majesty has ordered me to reply that the information given by the aforesaid Amar as to what passed between him and the Governor is opposed to the truth, for the Governor was absent on a military expedition.

Notwithstanding this, His Majesty has removed the Jews of Demnat from the jurisdiction of this Governor, so as not to hear more about their rights or wrongs, and they have been placed under the jurisdiction of Kaid Ahmed-el-Menbaby, so that the Governor of Demnat and the Jews may be relieved.

We did not receive your letter till after the Governor of Demnat had already been removed from jurisdiction over the Jews, and the above-mentioned other Governor had been appointed.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN AL MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Sir H. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, Kadeh 5, 1302 (August 17, 1885).

I HAVE received your letter of the 7th Showal (20th July), informing me that the Report of David Amar, regarding the ill-treatment he and his brethren suffered on their return to Demnat, when they were beaten, robbed of their animals and property, and compelled to flee for safety to Seraghna, does not correspond with the account given by the Governor, Kaid Jelaly; but that the Sultan had, nevertheless, removed the Jews of Demnat from the jurisdiction of the said Governor, and had appointed the Military Governor of Morocco City in his stead.

In a letter addressed to you on the 17th Showal (30th July), I have already informed you that Her Majesty's Government expect that the Sultan will remove Hadj Jelaly entirely from the Government of Demnat, not only on account of the outrages he has committed on the Jews, but also as a satisfaction to myself and the other Representatives, who, relying on the assurances repeatedly given by you in the name of the Sultan, and on the Shereefian Edict delivered to the French Minister, M. Féraud, that the Jews would be well treated, induced David Amar and the other members of the deputation to return to Demnat.

The Sultan in his wisdom will understand that, unless His Majesty marks his displeasure by the disgrace of this Governor, an impression will be left on the minds of the foreign Governments, and of their Representatives, who had received His Majesty's assurances that the Jews would be well treated, that Kaid Jelaly or his officers have been acting under orders in committing these outrages.

I have further to add that we have not heard of a single step having been taken to restore the property of the Jews confiscated by Kaid Jelaly, as was promised, nor that compensation has been offered for the murder of two of their brethren.

David Amar writes, on the 11th Showal (24th July), and on the 27th Showal (9th August), that he and other Jews will be compelled to leave Demnat if Kaid Jelaly

remains Governor, for though they are placed under the jurisdiction of the Military Governor of Morocco all their property remains under the control of Kaid Jelaly, and they expect to be gradually plundered by him of everything they possess.

Confiding in His Majesty's benevolence and feelings of compassion for his Jewish subjects, I trust this appeal to His Shereefian Majesty for justice will be attended to.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 33.

M. Giuseppe Pace to Earl Granville.—(Received September).

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the dossier containing the inquiry held here on the murder of my son was duly forwarded to Tunis on the 10th June ultimo to Mr. Consul-Judge Arpa, and have since heard nothing of the result; although, as I have been informed, that after having taken cognizance of the contents of the aforementioned dossier, Mr. Arpa wrote to the Bey's Minister, requesting him to see that justice be done in this affair, and that the individuals found guilty be dealt with, and condemned according to law.

Whereas over three months have since elapsed, and this case is still pending, I humbly beg that your Lordship be pleased to order that instructions be given to Her Majesty's Representative at Tunis for pressing the matter, and bring it to a close by seeing that justice be done to me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIUSEPPE PACE.

No. 34.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 42.)
Sir,

I APPROVE the note you addressed to the Vizier on the 17th ultimo, in reply to his letter in regard to the Jews of Demnat, copies of which correspondence are inclosed in your despatch No. 65 of the 20th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 35.

Sir V. Lister to Acting Consul Malmusi.

(No. 10.)
Sir,

I HAVE laid before the Marquis of Salisbury your despatch No. 23 of the 3rd instant, inclosing a full Report of the proceedings in the case of the murder of Mr. G. Pace's son, together with copies of correspondence with the French Residency relating to the same subject; and I am now directed by his Lordship to instruct you to continue to press the matter on the attention of the Tunis authorities, with a view to insure justice being done.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 36.

Sir V. Lister to M. Giuseppe Pace.

Sir,

IN reply to your letters of the 10th June and the 24th August relative to the inquiry held at Sfax into the circumstances attending the murder of your son, I am

Foreign Office, September 5, 1885.

directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that his Lordship has instructed the Acting British Consul at Tunis to continue to press the case on the attention of the Tunis authorities, with a view to insure justice being done.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 37.

Assim Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to the Marquis of Salisbury by Musurus Pasha, September 23.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, le 14 Septembre, 1885.

VOUS avez eu sans doute connaissance d'un Décret rendu à la date du 23 Juin dernier par le Président de la République Française dans le but de définir et d'élargir les attributions du Ministre Résident de France à Tunis.

Les dispositions de ce Décret tendant à assimiler de plus en plus le régime actuel de la Tunisie à celui qui est en vigueur dans les Colonies Françaises et à consolider par conséquent l'état de choses institué dans cette province à la suite des événements de 1881, le Gouvernement Impérial ne pouvait pas le laisser passer inaperçu. Aussi, ai-je cru devoir adresser à l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan à Paris la dépêche que vous trouverez ci-près en copie et qui a pour objet de renouveler les protestations que nous avons déjà formulées en temps et lieu à ce sujet.

Votre Excellence voudra bien communiquer cette dépêche au Gouvernement près duquel elle est accréditée et le prier de prendre acte de nos réserves.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) M. ASSIM.

Inclosure in No. 37.

Assim Pasha to Essad Pasha.

(Télégraphique.)

Le 14 Septembre, 1885.

J'AI reçu la dépêche que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le 2 Juillet dernier, pour me signaler un Décret rendu par le Président de la République Française dans le but de définir et d'élargir les attributions du Ministre Résident de France à Tunis.

Les dispositions de ce Décret tendent à établir une assimilation de plus en plus complète entre le régime administratif en Tunisie et celui qui est en vigueur dans les Colonies Françaises, ou, en d'autres termes, à consolider l'état des choses institué dans cette province à la suite des événements de 1881.

A ce titre nous ne saurions, sans manquer à nos devoirs, le laisser passer inaperçu.

Dès l'instant où les premières complications se sont produites en Tunisie, le Gouvernement Impérial s'est empressé d'affirmer l'existence des droits séculaires que Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan possède, au même titre que ses glorieux ancêtres, sur cette province de son Empire. Depuis l'époque la plus reculée la Tunisie a fait partie intégrante de l'Empire Ottoman, et les Sultans s'y trouvaient investis d'une autorité souveraine qui a été exercée sans interruption pendant une longue suite de siècles. Les raisons à l'aide desquelles on a cherché à établir que la Tunisie était devenue indépendante ont été combattues à la fois par le Gouvernement Impérial, par le Pacha de Tunis, et par toutes les autorités et les populations mêmes de la province.

En 1854, ces droits subsistaient dans toute leur étendue, au point que, pendant la guerre de Crimée, un contingent de troupes Tunisiennes est venu combattre, aux côtés et sous les drapeaux de l'Armée Impériale, pour la défense de la patrie commune. Le Traité de Paris, en consacrant le principe de l'intégrité de l'Empire Ottoman, a confirmé les droits du Sultan sur la Province de Tunis; et cet acte solennel, à l'élaboration duquel la France a pris une part si active, constitue entre les mains du Gouvernement Impérial un titre dont on ne saurait contester la haute valeur.

Le Gouvernement Impérial n'a pas reconnu et ne peut reconnaître les actes qui auraient pour conséquence de léser les droits séculaires de notre auguste Souverain. Les faits qui ont eu lieu à Tunis sans sa participation et malgré les réclamations légitimes qu'il n'a cessé de faire entendre, demeurent à ses yeux contraires au droit international et sont, dès lors, dépourvus de la sanction du droit.

Nous nous trouvons donc, à l'occasion de la dernière mesure prise par le Gouvernement Français, dans la nécessité de renouveler nos protestations contre tous les événements qui ont eu pour effet de modifier l'état des choses établi *ab antiquo* dans la Province de Tunis, et de réserver de la manière la plus formelle et la plus explicite les droits de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, tels qu'ils résultent de la tradition, des Firmans Impériaux réglant la situation de la province, et des Traités Internationaux.

Veuillez donner lecture de la présente dépêche à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de France et lui en laisser copie.

No. 38.

Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 24.)

(No 115. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 20, 1885.

AT an interview with the Italian Minister yesterday afternoon, Señor Elduayen volunteered the statement, as I have been confidentially informed by Baron Blanc, that the French Ambassador had quite recently renewed the assurance that the French Government contemplated no action in Morocco calculated to change in any way the *status quo*. Baron des Michels had added that no step of importance would be taken by France in that country without a full and cordial understanding with Spain. The Spanish Government therefore, in Señor Elduayen's phrase, might now go to sleep, so far as Morocco was concerned, "with both eyes shut."

I have, &c.

(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

No. 39.

Acting Consul Malmusi to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 25.)

(No. 25.)

My Lord,

Tunis, September 11, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Lister's despatch No. 10 of the 5th instant, with reference to the murder of Ernesto Pace, with instructions to continue to press the matter on the attention of the Tunis authorities.

Inclosed herewith is the copy of a further correspondence on the same subject between this office and the French Residency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. MALMUSI.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

M. Bompard to Acting Consul Malmusi.

M. le Gérant,

Tunis, le 10 Août, 1885.

LE Gouvernement Tunisien, auquel j'ai transmis votre lettre du 1^{er} Août courant, me prie de vous faire remarquer que vous n'avez pas répondu à la demande que je vous avais adressée en son nom le 30 Juillet dernier.

Pour complaire au désir exprimé par Mr. Reade il avait été convenu que l'instruction relative au meurtre du Sieur Ernesto Pace, de Sfax, serait conduite avec l'assistance de M. le Vice-Consul de Sa Majesté Britannique de cette ville. La proposition en a été faite par lettre du 28 Mai, 1884, et acceptée par celle du 18 Septembre de la même année.

Mr. Arpa, par ses lettres des 31 Mars, 5 Mai, 15 Juin, a cru devoir faire quelques réserves sur la manière dont l'information avait été menée.

Le Gouvernement Tunisien désire traiter cette affaire avec le concours de l'Agence et Consulat-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique, qui a jugé opportun d'y intervenir; c'est pourquoi il m'a prié de vous communiquer le procès-verbal de l'enquête ouverte sur le meurtre du Sieur Ernesto Pace et de vous demander vos conclusions à ce sujet.

Il ressort pour lui de l'examen auquel il a procédé que le meurtre de cet individu a été commis par un indigène faisant partie d'un groupe en état d'effervescence et qu'il n'est pas possible aujourd'hui d'identifier le coupable. Son avis serait donc de terminer l'instruction par une Ordonnance de non-lieu.

Sur la demande du Gouvernement j'ai en conséquence l'honneur de vous communiquer de nouveau le procès-verbal de l'enquête, de vous demander de vouloir bien l'examiner et faire connaître votre opinion sur la suite que comporte cette affaire.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) M. BOMPARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

Acting Consul Malmusi to M. Bompard.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

Tunis, le 14 Août, 1885.

J'AI l'honneur de répondre à la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 10 du courant, relativement à l'enquête et aux actes dressés par le Vice-Gouverneur de Sfax, à l'effet de découvrir les meurtriers de feu Ernesto Pace, sujet de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Mes conclusions, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, sont consignées dans les observations ci-jointes: elles sont conformes, ainsi que vous pourrez le voir, à celles qu'en résumé j'avais l'honneur de vous communiquer par ma note précédente du 1^{er} courant.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) G. MALMUSI.

Inclosure 3 in No. 39.

Memorandum.

DE l'enquête à laquelle il a été procédé à Sfax par les soins de l'autorité locale et avec l'assistance de M. le Vice-Consul de Sa Majesté Britannique y résidant, il ressort que le meurtre du nommé Ernesto Pace a été commis dans les circonstances précises de fait, de temps, et de lieu indiquées dans l'acte d'accusation.

Quant à la matérialité du méfait et au mobile de cet acte délictueux aucun doute ne saurait donc subsister.

Dans un moment d'effervescence populaire, aux débuts en un mot de l'insurrection de Sfax, la présence d'un Européen là où les insurgés se préparent au "Gehad" (guerre sainte) est averti par un groupe de Musulmans; cet Européen c'est Ernesto Pace; il est assailli, il est victime de leur fanatisme.

Mais la matérialité et le mobile du délit établis, il reste à examiner les résultats de la dite enquête par rapport à l'imputabilité spécifique, à l'identité personnelle des nombreux indigènes comparus et interrogés par l'autorité locale de Sfax.

Or, si cette identité est difficile à établir pour la plupart des accusés, elle paraît suffisamment démontrée en égard, au moins, à l'un des prévenus, à savoir, le nommé Ali-el-Mezàani.

En effet, ni les dénégations ni le mutisme de tous sans exception les inculpés qui ont été interrogés par son Excellence le Vice-Gouverneur de Sfax, ni les réticences et dépositions contradictoires de quelques témoins à charge, ne sauraient détruire dans l'esprit des Juges cette première et très forte impression que l'un des auteurs du meurtre ne soit le brillant cavalier que tout le monde a vu le jour du meurtre à Sfax, et qui, à cheval et armé de tout point, a harangué les insurgés et leur a indiqué d'abord et offert ensuite une victime dans la personne du premier Européen fatalement tombé sur sa voie; c'est le dit Ali-el-Mezàani. Il est connu. Or, il a été examiné à l'audience du 25 Mars, 1885, et seul le degré de sa parenté avec le Hadj Ahmed-el-Mezàani échappe aux Juges d'Instruction.

Mais ce qui pourra aider précisément à l'identifier et à découvrir s'il est le fils ou le neveu du Hadj Ahmed-el-Mezàani, c'est son arrestation et sa traduction par devant le Châara.

Pour ces motifs le Soussigné conclut à ce que l'instruction soumise à son examen présente assez d'éléments de culpabilité à la charge du dit Ali-el-Mezàani pour qu'il y ait lieu à le déférer au jugement régulier et formel du Charâa sous l'inculpation spécifique de meurtre, dont [sic] à l'acte d'accusation.

(Signé) G. MALMUSI.

Tunis, le 14 Août, 1885.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 28.)

(No. 69. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 17, 1885.

I AM informed by a respectable Moor that in the Province of Showeeya he met Kaid Jelaby, the Governor of Demnat, conveyed in a litter between mules.

Kaid Jelaby, with whom he is acquainted, informed him that he had been summoned to the camp of the Sultan, who is on the march to Morocco; that he had an interview with the Vizier and presented him a gift of money; that the Vizier caused him to drink in his presence a cup of coffee and milk; that he was shortly afterwards seized with violent pains and symptoms of poisoning; that his skin was peeling off, a sign, I am told, of poisoning by arsenic, and he declared himself to be a dying man.

Having mentioned this account to the Commissioner of Claims, Cid Mahommed Ben Suleiman, and having remarked that Kaid Jelaby is declared to have poisoned last month his own brother, whom he had imprisoned, he observed that it was not improbable that the Vizier had acted in pursuance of an order received from the Sultan; that he (Ben Suleiman), in his capacity of one of the Secretaries at the Court, had addressed a letter to Kaid Jelaby about three years ago, to which the Sultan's signet was affixed, informing him that His Shereefian Majesty had placed his (the Kaid's) brother under his guardianship, for it appears that the two brothers had quarrelled, and that His Majesty had used the following words: "You are warned that whatever you do unto him will be done unto you."

Ben Suleiman observed if Kaid Jelaby poisoned his brother he has been legally condemned to die in the same manner; moreover, he added, "this will settle the question of the removal of the Governor, and you will probably be told that God has removed him."

I mark this despatch Confidential as both Ben Suleiman and my informant might incur heavy displeasure at the Court if it were publicly known that they had made any communication to me on this subject.

I await a confirmation of this report of the treatment of the Kaid of Demnat, but a rumour is current also at Tangier that he is dying.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 41.

Petition of the Inhabitants of Sfax.—(Received September 30.)

(Translation.)

To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, &c., Foreign Office, London.

Petition of the English colony residing in the city of Sfax (Tunisia),

Humbly sheweth:

THAT the Tunisian Government has for a considerable time been exacting a tax of 6½ per cent. upon rents of immovable property belonging to private individuals.

That the same Government neglected for ten years to collect this tax, and the newly created Municipality seeks vexatiously to recover it, whereas by Decree of His Highness the Bey, the colonies of other cities of this Regency have been exempted from the payment of amounts seven years in arrear.

That representations to the effect that this colony should enjoy the same privilege as the others were made to the Deputy of the English Consul-General in Tunis, who promised his co-operation towards this object, that up to the present time no answer has been received, while this Municipality insists upon collecting the whole amount, and threatens the colony with legal proceedings.

That last week an intimation was received through this English Vice-Consul that a payment of 40 piastres, equivalent to 1*l.*, per metre, must be contributed for paving the streets, an outlay which is entirely the concern of the Government.

This Colony, which is well acquainted with the practice of the English Government, looks upon this proceeding of the Tunisian Administration as despotic, and upon the taxes which it wishes to levy upon British subjects as most unjust.

Consequently then, the English Consul-General's Deputy not having attended to the representations made to him, this Colony submits the foregoing to your Excellency's judgment, and asks you for protection from such ruinous inflictions.

Rejoicing to think that its appeal will be taken in serious consideration by your Excellency, this Colony has the honour to subscribe itself, &c.

(Signed)

ENRICO W. PORTELLI.

(And 15 others.)

Sfax, September 21, 1885.

No. 42.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Acting Consul Malmusi.

(No. 11.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 30, 1885.

YOUR despatch No. 25 of the 11th September, forwarding copies of further correspondence respecting the inquiry into the circumstances of the murder of Ernesto Pace, has been received, and I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to state that your proceedings in the matter are approved.

You should keep Mr. G. Pace informed of the progress of the case.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 43.

*The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Walsham.**

(No. 793.)

Foreign Office, October 1, 1885.

[Transmits copy of despatch from the Porte to Musurus Pasha dated September 14, 1885: *ante*, No. 37.]

No. 44.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 44.)

Foreign Office, October 1, 1885.

[Transmits copy of Mr. de Bunsen's No. 115 of September 20, 1885: *ante*, No. 38.]

No. 45.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 3.)

(No. 70.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 24, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 120 of the 2nd August, 1882, and No. 54 of the 25th June, 1883, I am informed that the Sultan is building a walled town with fortifications at Tizneet, in Soos. This site is about 10 miles to the south-east of Agloo, about latitude 29° 50', where I understand a port will be opened for trade.

The Sultan, it is reported, intends to proceed with an army to Tizneet in the spring, and it is supposed will open the port.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

* Also to other Embassies and Tunis.

Consul Sandwith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 7.)

(No. 16.)
My Lord,

Tunis, October 2, 1885.
I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, copy of the "Journal Officiel Tunisien," from which it will be seen that the French Tribunals in this Regency will henceforth take cognizance of all crimes committed in the Regency by Tunisian subjects to the detriment of the French or other Europeans.

Five several articles define the crimes and offences embraced by the Decree.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS B. SANDWITH.

Inclosure in No. 46.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel Tunisien" of September 10, 1885.

Décret du 23 Kâda, 1302 (2 Septembre, 1885).

Louanges à Dieu.

VU la Loi du 27 Mars, 1883 ;

Vu les Décrets des 14 Avril, 1883 ; 9 Juillet, 1884 ; et 22 Novembre, 1884 ; sur les Assesseurs en matière criminelle ;

Nous avons pris le Décret suivant :—

Article 1^{er}. Les Tribunaux Français en Tunisie connaîtront désormais, dans les limites de leur compétence respective et en conformité de la loi Française—

1. De tous crimes commis en Tunisie par les sujets Tunisiens au préjudice des Français ou protégés Français, et des Européens ou protégés des diverses Puissances Européennes.

2. De tous crimes ou délits commis en Tunisie par des sujets Tunisiens lorsque des Français ou protégés Français, et des Européens ou protégés des diverses Puissances Européennes, seront auteurs principaux, coauteurs, ou complices.

Art. 2. Ils connaîtront également de tous crimes, délits, ou contraventions commis en Tunisie par des sujets Tunisiens, ou avec leur complicité—

1. A leurs audiences et dans les lieux où l'un ou plusieurs de leurs Magistrats procèdent à un acte de leurs fonctions ;

2. Contre des Magistrats, Assesseurs, ou officiers de la justice Française dans l'exercice, ou à l'occasion de l'exercice de leurs fonctions ;

3. Contre l'exécution des Arrêts, Jugements, Sentences, Ordonnances, ou Mandats de la justice Française.

Art. 3. Ils connaîtront également de tous crimes ou délits commis par les Assesseurs Tunisiens dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions d'Assesseurs, ou par suite d'un abus de ces fonctions.

Art. 4. Les sujets Tunisiens pourront être appelés en témoignage devant les diverses juridictions Françaises en Tunisie, dans les formes prévues par la loi Française, et ils seront passibles des moyens de contrainte et des peines édictées par cette Loi.

Art. 5. Seront aussi déferés aux Tribunaux Français les sujets Tunisiens inculpés de crimes ou de délits de faux témoignage, de faux serment, ou de subornation de témoins, devant les juridictions Françaises, tant en matière civile qu'en matière criminelle, correctionnelle, ou de police.

Vu pour promulgation et mise à exécution,

Le Chargé d'Affaires de France, Délégué à la Résidence
Générale de la République Française,

(Signé) M. BOMPARD.

Tunis, le 3 Septembre, 1885.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Consul Sandwith.

(No. 13.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, October 9, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith translation of a Petition which I have received from certain persons who style themselves the English Colony residing in Sfax, praying for exemption from a tax of 6½ per cent. levied by the Tunisian Government upon real property belonging to private individuals;* and I have to instruct you to make inquiries on this subject, and to furnish me with a Report thereon.

I inclose, under flying seal, my reply to this Petition, which I have to request that you will forward to Mr. Portelli.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 48.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Enrico W. Portelli.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 9, 1885.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of a Petition, signed by yourself and other residents in Sfax, praying for exemption from a tax on real property levied by the Tunisian Government; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Consul at Tunis has been instructed to furnish a Report upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 49.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. de Bunsen.

(No. 105.)

Foreign Office, October 10, 1885.

[Transmits copy of Sir J. Drummond Hay's No. 70 of September 24, 1885: ante, No. 45.]

No. 50.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 14.)

(No. 72.)
My Lord,

Tangier, October 2, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 41 of the 27th May and No. 48 of the 19th June, and to your Lordship's despatch No. 27 of the 10th June, I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter addressed to me by a number of British subjects resident at Tangier renewing their request that I obtain from this Government permission for them to import wheat from the western ports in the same manner as subjects of other foreign Powers, who, they allege, have obtained permits.

Taking into consideration that this Government has not acted upon the advice I have repeatedly given that the coasting trade in grain should be allowed, and that British subjects have to buy wheat at a price 30 or 40 per cent. higher than that paid by the foreign subjects who have obtained permits from their Representatives to import it, I addressed a letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres, of which I transmit a translation.

His Excellency has again replied that, in consequence of the orders given him by the Sultan, he cannot comply with my request, but that he will transmit my note to His Shereefian Majesty. He declares in distinct terms that he has never issued a permit to import grain to private individuals, as is alleged, but solely to chiefs of Mission, who have stated to him in their applications that the grain was required for the use of their households.

In a conversation I had on this subject with Hadj Mohammed Torres he observed

* No. 41.

† No. 48.

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ALL WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

that, if some of the foreign Representatives chose to make inexact statements in order to benefit their merchants or other favoured persons, this was a matter which concerns them and their consciences, but that he could not do otherwise than favourably contrast my strict adherence to truth and right with their action.

As certain malevolent persons are in the habit of sending telegrams or paragraphs to the public journals in England and elsewhere, wherein attacks are made upon me generally for neglect of British interests, and as this grain question has been put forward as one of the grievances of British subjects, I have thought it advisable to place your Lordship in possession of the above-mentioned documents in case the matter should be brought to your Lordship's notice.

The objections of this Government to allow the coasting trade in grain proceeds from a fraud committed some years ago by a British subject named Porro, who chartered a vessel to convey a cargo of wheat from Daralbaida to Tangier. Instead of landing the grain at Tangier, Porro declared that the vessel and cargo having received serious damage on the voyage, had put into Cadiz for repairs. This was not true for no damage had been sustained by the ship or cargo. The wheat was sold at Cadiz at a considerable profit.

The Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at that time, Don Carlos de España, was the secret associate of Mr. Porro in this fraudulent transaction, and as a dispute arose between them regarding the division of the profits, the fraud which had been committed was divulged by Porro. The Moorish Government on hearing of this fraud put a stop to the coasting trade.

During a visit I paid to the Shereefian Court in 1882, I obtained, in concert with the French Minister, permission that the coasting trade in grain should be reopened temporarily on trial; but after a few months, notwithstanding repeated remonstrances, it was closed on the plea that smuggling was committed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

Letter addressed by Twenty-one British Subjects to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Sir,

Tangier, September 15, 1885.

WE the undersigned British subjects residing in Tangier, beg to request your Excellency to move the Minister of Foreign Affairs of His Shereefian Majesty the Sultan of Morocco to allow us the same privilege that has been granted to the subjects of all other nations in Morocco, viz., to bring a quantity of wheat for our own consumption from the coast ports.

We have, &c.
(Follow signatures of twenty-one British subjects.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

8 Heja, 1302 (September 18, 1885).

THE crops in the Tangier Province, as you are aware, have failed, and the price of grain is 100 per cent. higher than at the western ports.

British subjects have again addressed me a letter requesting that I obtain a licence for the importation of wheat from the coast to provision their households, and they point at the more favoured position in which the subjects of other nations have been placed by their Representatives obtaining permits from the Government for the importation of grain in very large quantities, by declaring that it is for their own households, whereas it is publicly known they have caused it to be distributed to the very few subjects of their respective Governments who reside at Tangier for trading purposes, as well as for provisioning their households. One Italian subject alone received a licence for 6,000 fanegas of wheat, which he has imported in company with the French house of Bonnet, and is selling at a large profit.

I am aware that you replied to me, when I made an application for a permit to import wheat for British subjects, that if I chose to apply for a large quantity of grain, and declare that it was for my household, as other Representatives have done, you would

give a permit for the quantity I might require, but I declined to make a declaration that would have been untrue.

As there are more British subjects in Tangier than the subjects of all other Powers together who have obtained licences, I had asked for a permit for 10,000 fanegas of wheat and barley for the subjects of Great Britain and of the other three Powers I represent, but this you informed me could not be granted except on the above-mentioned conditions, so, after consulting Her Majesty's Government, I only applied for the quantity of wheat and barley necessary for my personal use and for the households of the officers in my employment.

Taking into consideration, however, that the subjects of Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, and the Netherlands have good grounds for complaining that the subjects of other Powers have been enabled to obtain through their Representatives permits for the importation of wheat, by which they not only have provisioned their households at half the price of wheat selling at the present time at Tangier, but have also made a large profit by the sale of the wheat itself or of the permits issued to them by their Representatives, at 2 reals of vellon the fanega, as is publicly known, I have to request that a permit for 6,000 fanegas of wheat be granted for the subjects of the Powers I represent, which, as there are about 600 persons, would be equivalent to 10 fanegas a-head. I would cause this wheat to be distributed amongst them solely for provisioning their households, and not for purposes of trade.

Should the tenour of the superior instructions you have received prevent you from acceding to my request, I request that you will lose no time in communicating to His Shereefian Majesty this letter, for I have full confidence in His Majesty's sense of justice, and that His Majesty will take into consideration the disadvantageous position in which the subjects of the Powers I represent are placed, because I have declined, as instructed by Her Majesty's Government, to take advantage of a diplomatic privilege to make an untruthful declaration to obtain for them the same privileges as for subjects of other Powers at Tangier.

Should His Shereefian Majesty decide upon not authorizing this permit for 6,000 fanegas of wheat to be granted for the above-mentioned purpose, I have again to urge strongly upon His Majesty the advisability of allowing the conveyance of wheat to Tangier from the western ports by sea, or that His Shereefian Majesty be pleased to direct that the Administrators of Customs at Tangier charter several ships to import a sufficient quantity of wheat for the supply of the population of Tangier during the winter, and that this wheat be sold at cost price, with the addition of such expenses as may have been incurred for freight, &c., and that it be sold in a manner to prevent any one buying it in large quantities in order to retail it at a higher price.

The poor at Tangier of all creeds are suffering much from the stagnation of trade in consequence of quarantines, and I feel persuaded His Majesty has at heart their welfare, and will desire to alleviate their distress.

I trust, also, that steps may be taken by His Shereefian Majesty to prevent, for the future, the privilege ceded to foreign Representatives being made use of to benefit private individuals whom they may wish to favour, which has given such just grounds for complaint to the subjects of the four Powers I represent.

Peace and friendship.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 51.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 45.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 17, 1885.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch No. 72 of the 2nd instant, inclosing copy of a note which you have addressed to Hadj Mohammed Torres, asking for a permit to import from the coast ports 10,000 fanegas of wheat and barley for the use of the subjects of Great Britain, and of the other Powers which you represent at Tangier.

That note is approved by Her Majesty's Government, and I leave it to your discretion to inform the British subjects who have petitioned you to obtain this permission of the steps which you have taken in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 21.)

(No. 74.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 63 of the 6th August, transmitting copy of a despatch I had addressed the Government at Vienna tendering my resignation of the post of Agent-General for Austria-Hungary, I have the honour to inclose a copy of their reply, informing me that they have decided to appoint a Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General as my successor.

The Minister thanks me for the services I have rendered during the thirty years I have been in Morocco, and requests me to continue to take charge of the interests of Austria-Hungary until the Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General arrives at Tangier.

The charges made against the Imperial and Royal Consul, Dr. Schmidl, will be inquired into, as I had suggested, by my successor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 52.

M. Szögyényi to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

M. l'Agent-Général,

PAR votre Rapport du 25 Juillet dernier, vous avez bien voulu m'informer de votre intention de retourner dans le courant de l'année prochaine, en Angleterre, attendu que d'après les règlements du Service Diplomatique Anglais vos fonctions officielles au Maroc allaient toucher à leur terme.

Par suite de cette circonstance vous êtes mis dans l'impossibilité de remplir désormais les devoirs de la charge dont vous êtes revêtu de la part du Gouvernement Impérial et Royal d'Autriche-Hongrie.

Je ne pourrai vous voir abandonner, M. l'Agent-Général, le poste que vous occupez durant plus de trente ans, sans me rappeler le tact et le zèle que vous avez toujours mis à exercer vos fonctions et qui vous ont valu en tout temps notre pleine reconnaissance.

Je vous remercie du conseil que vous me donnez de confier dorénavant la direction de nos affaires au Maroc à un Ministre Résident et Consul-Général choisi parmi les fonctionnaires effectifs de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale.

En raison des considérations que vous invoquez, M. l'Agent-Général, en faveur de cette mesure, je me propose de demander aux prochaines Délégations de l'Empire l'autorisation d'établir à Tanger le poste d'un Chargé d'Affaires et Consul-Général.

En attendant et jusqu'à ce que la nomination d'un titulaire puisse avoir lieu, j'accepte avec plaisir l'offre aimable que vous voulez bien nous faire de continuer à exercer vos fonctions dans cet intervalle, et j'ai l'honneur de vous prier de le faire avec le même zèle et dévouement comme par le passé.

Je compte aussi sur votre aimable concours pour faciliter au nouveau titulaire, lorsqu'il sera arrivé à son poste, son entrée en fonctions.

Je me réserve de vous faire connaître le nom du nouveau Représentant d'Autriche-Hongrie au Maroc et de vous informer en même temps des autres dispositions que nous prendrons à la suite de la nomination de votre successeur.

Pour ce qui concerne le Consul Schmidl, dont les procédés forment l'objet de votre Rapport No. 15, je ne manquerai pas de faire examiner consciencieusement les plaintes portées contre ce fonctionnaire et de donner, conformément à l'avis que vous avez émis dans votre Rapport No. 16, au nouveau titulaire les instructions nécessaires pour la conduite qu'il aura à suivre dans cette affaire.

Je ne doute pas que dans l'intervalle nos nationaux trouveront auprès de vous, M. l'Agent-Général, le même appui et la même protection que jusqu'à présent.

Recevez, &c.

(Signé) SZÖGYÉNYI.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir J. Pouncefote.—(Received October 31.)

Downing Street, October 29, 1885.

Sir, WITH reference to your letter of the 14th August last, I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury, a copy of a despatch which has been received from the Governor of Malta on the subject of the claims of S. and E. Tabone in Tunis.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Governor Sir J. Simmons to Colonel Stanley.

Palace, Valletta, October 21, 1885.

Sir, IN compliance with section 222 of the Colonial Regulations, and with reference to the correspondence noted in the margin,* I have the honour to transmit herewith a further application which I have received from Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. L. A. SIMMONS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

Petition.

To the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Petition of Emmanuele and Salvatore Tabone, of Malta,

Respectfully sheweth:

THAT petitioners have received through his Excellency the Governor of this island a copy of a letter, dated the 14th August, 1885, from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office, on the subject of their claims to compensation for the destruction of their property at Gabes, in Tunis.

Petitioners consider the reply of the French Government far from satisfactory. The state of the Tunisian finances and the other considerations set forth therein are of no interest to petitioners. The arguments of the French Minister in no way improve petitioners' circumstances, whose health and prospects were ruined.

Petitioners suffered heavy losses, as described in previous Petitions, owing to the bombardment of Sfax by the French and the insurrection which ensued. Petitioners' stores were pillaged by the French soldiery.

Petitioners would also point out that all those who suffered losses under the same circumstances at Sfax have been indemnified, and they cannot understand why an exception should be made in their case.

Petitioners, who have the honour to be subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, therefore again humbly appeal for redress, praying that they be indemnified for the losses suffered by them at Gabes, so that justice may be done.

And petitioners, as in duty bound, will for ever pray, &c.

(Signed)

E. TABONE.
S. TABONE.

October 12, 1885.

* Governor to Secretary of State, March 30; Secretary of State to Governor, May 30; Governor to Secretary of State, July 13; Secretary of State to Governor, August 27, 1885.

Sir J. Goldsmid and Mr. Cohen to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

London, October 20, 1885.

WE beg leave to bring under your Lordship's notice the subjoined well-authenticated Report we have received from Fez regarding the increase of murders committed in and near that city. Complaints for redress were in due time made to the Moorish authorities by the respective relatives of the victims, but proved ineffectual. Our informants state that during a considerable time there had been a diminution of outrages, thanks to the powerful interposition afforded by the Representative of Her Majesty's Government. Although the Mahomedan subjects of the Sultan of Morocco are likewise exposed to similar outrages, they, as the dominant section of the population, have facilities for protecting themselves and for obtaining redress, which, as experience has shown, are not within the reach of their Jewish fellow-countrymen.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the request that your Lordship may take this subject into your kind consideration, with the view of adopting measures analogous to those to which Her Majesty's Government resorted on former similar occasions.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

JULIAN GOLDSMID, Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

ARTHUR COHEN, President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

Extract from a Report received from Fez.

(Translation.)

EIGHT Jewish residents of Fez have been murdered within a recent time:—

1. An aged man, Makhloof Shaloosh, was one of our notabilities. He had just left the outskirts of Fez when he was murdered by Mahomedan plunderers.
2. Two business men on their way to Morocco, Mimon Athurzaman and Reuben Ezrad, were sabred down near that city, and their money was taken from them. Their children are left totally destitute.
3. Shalom Atiah, who was respected for the excellency of his conduct, and held an eminent position both among Jews and non-Jews, was murdered in the vicinity of Fez, after his money was taken from him.
4. Two brothers, Solomon and Raphael Abecasis, who carried on business among the Arabs, were slain and robbed of their money.
5. Two other men, Levi Cazus (advanced in years), and his son-in-law, Massood ben David Vakion, were travelling from Mequinez to Fez, and were murdered on the way for the sake of plunder.

Consul-General Playfair to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 7.)

(No. [?].)

My Lord,

Tunis, November 2, 1885.

I AM anxious to bring to your Lordship's notice the affair of the assassination of Ernesto Pace, which has formed the subject of a long correspondence, terminating with Sir Julian Pauncefote's despatch No. 11, dated the 30th September.

I was such a very short time at Tunis on my way to the south that I found it impossible to read through all the correspondence that had taken place since my last visit; this matter was quite unknown to me.

On my arrival at Sfax Giuseppe Pace was introduced to me by the Vice-Consul. The latter was naturally unaware of what had been written to the Resident-General, and to the Foreign Office, regarding the assassination. He represented G. Pace as a poor old man who had been deprived of his son by an act of war, with which he had no concern, and who very naturally hoped to obtain some pecuniary compensation. Pace himself never alluded to the possibility of justice being meted out to the assassin; he seemed to regard the murder as one of the consequences of the insurrection, to which he could not but resign himself. He only prayed that his age and helplessness should be

taken into consideration, and that some compensation should be made for the great loss he had sustained.

I at once dispatched the letter, a copy of which is inclosed, dated Sfax, the 23rd October, to the Resident-General.

On my arrival here I learnt for the first time that this matter had already been discussed at great length here, and had on many occasions been referred to the Foreign Office.

Mr. Sandwith further informed me that, having failed to obtain any reply to his letters addressed to the Acting Resident-General on the subject, he had waited on M. Bompard after my departure, and had discussed the matter with him personally. M. Bompard informed him that while sincerely anxious that the crime should be brought home to the guilty parties, he despaired of that result being obtained after so many years.

Mr. Sandwith was thoroughly impressed with the conviction that there was little likelihood of any trial resulting satisfactorily, and he was on the point of reporting this to your Lordship.

Under these circumstances, I felt that there would be no use in pressing the matter further, and as my previous communication required some explanation, I addressed another, of this day's date, to the Resident-General, of which also I inclose a copy.

I trust that your Lordship will approve of my proceedings, and of the manner in which I have suggested some pecuniary compensation as the best possible, indeed the only, solution of the affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. L. PLAYFAIR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Consul-General Playfair to M. Cambon.

M. le Résident-Général,

Sfax, October 23, 1885.

AN application has been made to me to bring to your notice the case of a Maltese, Giuseppe Pace, an old and infirm man, whose son was killed during the insurrection at Sfax.

I subjoin an extract of a letter addressed by M. le Comte de Marquissac to M. Mattei, giving his appreciation of the case and of the justice of the claim:—

Paris, le 2 Novembre, 1882.

"Je reçois une lettre de Giuseppe Pace, qui avait demandé une indemnité à l'occasion de la mort de son fils, tué pendant l'insurrection.

"La demande de Pace revint à la Commission avec prière de donner l'avis de Mr. Leonardi sur la situation de Pace. Pour ma part, je pensais qu'une pension de 1.200 piastres serait rémunératrice, mais il ne fut rien décidé.

"Mr. Leonardi, auquel j'en parlais, n'eut pas le temps de répondre, sans doute.

"Je ne puis donc plus rien faire directement pour Pace.

"Je ne vois qu'un moyen: Pace doit s'adresser à son Consul, Mr. Reade, qui trouvera à la Résidence la lettre de M. Roustan demandant des explications sur la situation de Pace."

I trust, M. le Résident-Général, that it may not be too late to afford some compensation to the person, as has, I am told, been done in the case of several others similarly situated.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. L. PLAYFAIR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Consul-General Playfair to M. Cambon.

M. le Résident-Général,

Tunis, November 2, 1885.

WHEN I addressed to you my letter dated Sfax, 23rd October last, I was in ignorance of the fact that the murder of Mr. Ernesto Pace had already formed the subject of a lengthened correspondence between this Consulate and the Residency.

The father of the victim is no doubt very anxious to obtain pecuniary compensation for his son's death, and that is hardly a matter for surprise, as he is old and unable to sustain himself, whereas he might have reasonably expected that the son whom he had lost would prove his stay and support in old age. The right of a father to compensation

for his son's death, when caused by an act of war, has often been recognized. It was so during the insurrection of 1871 in Algeria, and I am informed that compensation has also been made during the late trouble in Tunis.

Mr. Sandwith has reported to me that you think it impossible at this distance of time to bring the actual assassin to justice. Under these circumstances, M. le Résident-Général, I trust that you will agree with me in thinking that the best solution of the case would be to make some pecuniary compensation to an old man who has lost the son on whom he was in a great measure dependent for support.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. L. PLAYFAIR.

No. 56.

Consul Sandwith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 11.)

(No. 18.)

My Lord,

Tunis, November 3, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 13 of the 9th ultimo, in which you transmitted me translation of a Petition addressed to your Lordship by the English colony residing at Sfax, praying for exemption from a tax of 6½ per cent. levied by the Tunisian Government on real property, under the name of "Carouba," and you instruct me to make inquiries into the subject, and to report thereon.

The tax in question was first imposed by the Tunisian Government in 1879, but from the beginning its collection met with a good deal of opposition, chiefly on the part of foreign residents, many of whom appear to have shirked payment. On the 3rd October, 1884, by a Decree of His Highness the Bey, the proceeds of this revenue at Tunis, Goletta, Susa, and Sfax were granted to the Municipalities of those towns. The collection of this tax met with so much opposition at Tunis and Goletta, that the municipal authorities were induced to condone the arrears; while at Susa and Sfax, where the opposition appears to have been less, the Municipalities persisted in demanding payment. From Susa, indeed, no complaint reached this Consulate, while at Sfax, a minority only of the Maltese colony telegraphed, in the name of a Mr. Portelli, whose name appears at the head of the petitioners to your Lordship, to the Acting Consul, M. Malmusi, begging his support, their telegram being dated the 9th September, and M. Malmusi, on the following day, brought their case before M. Bompard, the Chargé d'Affaires, who declined to entertain their complaint. Copy of this correspondence I have the honour to inclose.

As Colonel Playfair was inspecting the Vice-Consulates of the Regency when your Lordship's despatch reached me, I lost no time in acquainting him with its contents, and I also transmitted to him your Lordship's reply to the Petition of the British community of Sfax for delivery to Mr. Portelli. Colonel Playfair, having inquired into the matter, has recorded his opinion in the form of a Memorandum, with which I beg to conclude this despatch:—

"I have sent the Foreign Office letter to Mr. Portelli.

"First, regarding him, he is not a person of much consideration, having spent five years of his life in penal servitude at Toulon for murder in Algeria.

"Secondly, it is manifestly unfair to call upon the inhabitants of Sfax to pay eleven years of a tax which the Financial Commission was compelled to abandon from sheer inability to collect. In any other country the ordinary prescription would have been a bar to the claim; but here, it is asserted, no prescription exists. Certainly, the Municipality have no intention of abandoning their demand. In fact, they can hardly do so. The total amount of the eleven years' arrears is 87,000 piastres; of this, 63,000 piastres has been paid, leaving 24,000 piastres still to be encashed.

"The Municipality could hardly give up this claim without refunding what they have already received. About seventy-five Maltese are liable to the tax; of these, sixty have paid it. I see no course open for the remainder, if they are determined to resist, save to allow some of their property to be distrained by the Juge de Paix, and then to appeal against him; no other appeal is possible. The Arabs, without exception, have paid the tax. When I see the absolute necessity for the Municipality having funds at its disposal, and the admirable use that they are making of their small revenue, I must confess my sympathies are strongly in their favour."

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS B. SANDWITH.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Correspondence with Local Authorities on the Tax claimed from British Community at Sfax

Telegram, dated Sfax, September 9, 1885.

WE are informed, through your agent, that the arrears of the "Carouba" tax have been remitted to all, payments to be made only from the beginning of 1300. This Municipality forces us to pay arrears since 1292. We beg you to afford us your assistance with the competent authorities, that we may only pay since 1300, like other towns of the Regency. The Italian colony have advanced the same claim.

For the British Colony,
(Signed) GILI AND PORTELLI.

Tunis, September 10, 1885.

Sir,

With reference to the decision of the Municipality, dated the 11th May, 1885, sanctioned by his Excellency the Prime Minister of His Highness the Bey, by which the "Carouba" tax up to the year 1299 has been ceded in favour of householders, I have the honour to bring to your notice that several British subjects residing at Sfax have reported to this Consulate that the local authorities there seem not to have been informed of such a decision, and therefore insist on their paying the "Carouba" for years previous to 1300.

In consequence thereof, I beg that instructions may be forwarded to the said authorities, in order that British householders may enjoy the benefit of the above-mentioned decision in the same manner as those at this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. MALMUSI.

M. M. Bompard,
Chargé des Affaires de France,
&c. &c. &c.

Tunis, le 24 Septembre, 1885.

M. le Gérant,
J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 10 Septembre par laquelle vous exprimez le désir que j'intervienne auprès du Gouvernement Tunisien en vue de faire accorder à vos administrés de Sfax la remise des arriérés de la "Caroube" de l'année 1300 et des années antérieures.

L'État percevait autrefois la taxe de la "Caroube" de toutes les villes de la Régence. Mais un Décret de Son Altesse en date du 3 Hidge, 1301 (3 Octobre, 1884), a décidé qu'à Tunis, Sousse, Sfax, et la Goulette les Municipalités jouiraient à l'avenir de ce revenu.

La donation est pleine et entière; elle s'applique tant aux arriérés qu'aux taxes de l'année courante.

Devant cette donation formelle, le Gouvernement peut-il accorder à vos administrés de Sfax la remise de leurs taxes? Évidemment non. Tout au plus le Premier Ministre pourrait-il faire part de votre requête au Conseil Municipal. Encore cette démarche paraît-elle superflue, attendu que déjà vos administrés de Sfax se sont pourvus devant les autorités de la ville. Le Conseil Municipal, qui a été appelé à délibérer sur la question, a répondu à l'unanimité par une fin de non recevoir.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) M. BOMPARD.

M. le Gérant du Consulat de Sa Majesté Britannique,
Tunis.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Sir R. Herbert.

Sir,

I HAVE laid before the Marquis of Salisbury your letter of the 29th ultimo, in which you forwarded a further Petition from Messrs. S. and E. Tabone, urging their claim to an indemnity for the destruction of their property at Gabes, in Tunis; and I am now to acquaint you, for the information of Secretary Colonel Stanley, that the answer of the French Government, of which the substance was communicated to you in my letter of the 14th August last, appears to his Lordship to be conclusive.

It appears that the losses sustained were caused by insurgents over whom the Tunis authorities had no control. Those losses, therefore, give no right to compensation; and as none has been paid to other claimants, I am to suggest that the petitioners should be apprised that Her Majesty's Government cannot take any further action in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 50.)

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the treatment of Jews in Morocco, I transmit to you herewith copy of a letter from the Anglo-Jewish Association and the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews, calling attention to certain alleged outrages on the Jews at Fez;* and I have to request that you will take all such steps as you properly can to prevent persecution of the Jewish portion of the population of Fez, if the statements referred to in the inclosed letter should prove, on investigation, to be well founded, and report to me any action which you may take in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Consul-General Playfair.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to convey to you his Lordship's approval of your proceedings in the case of Ernesto Pace, as reported in your despatch No. [?] of the 2nd instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Sir Julian Goldsmid (Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association), and Mr. Arthur Cohen (President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews).

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, in which you call attention to certain outrages alleged to have been committed on Jews at Fez; and I am to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has been requested to take all such steps as he properly can to prevent persecution of the Jewish inhabitants of Fez, if the statements to which you refer should prove on investigation to be well founded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Consul Sandwith.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

I HAVE laid before the Marquis of Salisbury your despatch No. 18 of the 3rd instant, respecting the tax imposed on the real property belonging to certain British subjects resident at Sfax; and I am now directed by his Lordship to instruct you to inform the petitioners that their complaint has been carefully investigated, but that the question of their liability to the tax would appear to be one for the decision of the local Tribunals, and does not warrant the interference of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 22.)

(No. 81.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 50 of the 14th ultimo, transmitting copy of a letter from the Anglo-Jewish Association and the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews, calling attention to the alleged outrages on Jews, of which a list is annexed, and directing me to take all such steps as I possibly can to prevent persecution of the Jewish population.

With regard to my despatch No. 65 of the 20th August last, transmitting a translation of an identic letter addressed by the French and Italian Representatives and by myself to the Vizir regarding further outrages committed on the Jews at Demnat, neither I nor my colleagues had received any reply from the Shereefian Court to that communication until the end of last month, when a letter from the Vizir dated the 20th October, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy, reached me.

As I thought it very desirable that I should continue to act in concert with the French and Italian Representatives in the Demnat question, and also in making a representation to the Shereefian Court regarding the alleged outrages committed near Fez, I communicated to them the letter addressed to me by the Vizir, and also the above-mentioned despatch of your Lordship and inclosure. Though neither of my colleagues had received any reply from the Shereefian Court on the Demnat question, they readily agreed to address an identic note to the Vizir, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy drawn up in French.

I shall cause a letter to be addressed to the Rabi Amar, and request him to make known to my colleagues and to myself whether the Sultan has taken the steps we have suggested to cause justice to be done.

As it appears from the statement made by the Vizir that the Governor Jilali was absent from Demnat when the Jewish deputation were attacked and robbed by the populace on their return to that town, we have not thought it advisable to renew the demand for his dismissal from the government of the Mussulman population.

With regard to the passage in my despatch No. 69 of the 17th September, reporting that the Governor of Demnat was met on his return from the Court in an apparently dying state from the effect of poison, the account that was given to me proved to be perfectly correct; but after a serious illness the Governor Kaid Jilali recovered from the effect of the dose of arsenic, which had not been administered in a sufficient quantity to destroy life. I should not, however, be surprised to learn, when the further representation we have now made is received, that other steps may be taken to get rid of this obnoxious functionary on account of the crimes he has committed.

I transmitted to the Vizir a list of the persons who were murdered, and also of two other outrages, not murders, which had lately come to my knowledge as having been committed on Jews.*

When I communicated to M. Feraud the list of Jews murdered near Fez, he remarked that the deceased Shalem Atiah, who is declared therein to be a respectable person,† was a Jew under French protection, who had been guilty of the grossest usury

* See Inclosure in Lord Salisbury's despatch No. 50 of the 14th November, 1885.—J. H. D. H.

† Case No. 2 in Memorandum.

in his dealings with the Moors; that the deceased had proceeded to a village on the river Sebu, situated not far from Fez, and had there attempted to take possession of the entire crop of grain of an Arab in payment of an usurious claim; that the Arab pleaded that he had a large family, and would be left in a state of destitution if the whole crop was seized, but that Shalem indulged in violent and offensive language, insisting in taking possession of the grain. The Arab villagers, incensed at the conduct and language of the Jew, threw him into the river and he was drowned.

M. Feraud observed to me that during his visit to Fez he had received information from some of the principal Jews of that town, which bore out the accusation made against Jews under foreign protection of taking advantage of their position to extort money unjustly from the Mahommedans, and that the Jewish subjects of the Sultan had expressed to him their apprehensions that the Mahommedans might seek to revenge themselves, when an opportunity presented itself, on the entire Jewish population of Fez.*

M. Feraud observed that he had transmitted to the Government at Paris, on his return from Fez, a letter from the principal Jews, which proved what he had stated to me, and he had requested that it should be communicated to the Alliance Israélite of that city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

The Grand Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

YOUR letter was received regarding the Jews of Demnat, who had been at the Shereefian Court of our Lord the Sultan, and on their return to Demnat had been stopped at the gates, been beaten, and robbed, and amongst other (illtreatments) a Jew who you named had goods brought from Morocco taken from him, and that on account of all this the Governor deserves to be punished.

We communicated to His Shereefian Majesty your letter, and he has been made acquainted with all you have mentioned in it, and he ordered us to reply that no responsibility rests upon the Governor in this matter, for at the time the said Jews returned to Demnat the Governor was with the army at Tedla, eight days' journey from Demnat. Nevertheless, he has been removed from having jurisdiction over the Jews of Demnat on account of what had happened before, and was reprimanded on account of not having left a Khalifa in his place at Demnat, who should have acted with firmness, so His Shereefian Majesty appointed one of the Governors of Morocco in his place.

As to removing him from the Government of the Mussulmans, it cannot be done, as the Mussulmans would not be disposed to accept his removal on account of the Jews, especially for that which has not been proved.

As to the people against whom the said Jews have brought accusations of having hindered their entrance at the gates of Demnat, the Shereefian order has been sent to their Governor to arrest them, and to cause them to return the property taken from the Jews, and that justice be done.

Peace!

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN MOKTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

Identical Letter of British, French, and Italian Representatives to the Grand Vizier.

(Translation.)

Le 12 Décembre, 1885.

DANS la lettre que vous m'avez adressée le 20 Moharrem dernier vous arguez de ce que le Gouverneur de Demnat était absent lorsque les Israélites de cette localité ont été maltraités par la population Musulmane et ne pouvait être responsable.

Vous dites, d'autre part, qu'il a été blâmé pour n'avoir pas délégué ses pouvoirs à un Khalifa avant son départ, et qu'en outre des ordres ont été donnés par Sa Majesté

* See opinion expressed in my despatch No. 6 of January 10, 1885.—J. H. D. H.

Shérifienne d'arrêter les coupables et de faire restituer tout ce qui avait été pillé et volé dans cette circonstance.

Dans les représentations qu'ils vous ont précédemment adressées au sujet de cette question, mes collègues et moi nous avons insisté sur deux points importants:—

1. La restitution par le Gouverneur des propriétés et autres valeurs mobilières dont il s'était emparé après que les Juifs auraient prêté le serment solennel pour l'établissement de la liste de leurs pertes.

2. La demande de compensations équitables pour les familles des Israélites massacrés à Demnat.

Dans votre réponse vous passez sous silence ces deux points principaux qui ont motivé l'instance primordiale des Israélites lésés et l'intervention des Représentants des Puissances.

Aussi insistons nous à nouveau pour que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Chérifienne rende justice aux victimes de Demnat.

Un résultat satisfaisant ne sera obtenu que si le Gouverneur de Maroc, que vous avez désigné pour l'administration directe des Juifs de Demnat, reçoit de vous l'ordre d'envoyer son Khalifa ou d'aller lui-même à Demnat pour examiner équitablement toutes ces réclamations et faire droit aux demandes de restitution et de compensations dont nous vous avons entretenu dans notre précédente lettre et à laquelle Sa Majesté Chérifienne nous a donné à plusieurs reprises l'assurance d'accorder satisfaction.

Il importe, en second lieu, que le Gouverneur de Demnat n'ait à l'avenir aucune juridiction à exercer sur les Israélites de cette localité, mais, que le soin d'intervenir dans toutes ces affaires et de les régler incombe au Gouverneur de Maroc ou à son Khalifa.

Mais à la suite de nouveaux sévices très graves dont les malheureux Israélites ont encore été victimes dernièrement, ils se sont adressés à leurs coreligionnaires d'Europe et ont fait connaître au monde entier leurs légitimes griefs par l'entremise de la presse. Il importe que vous informiez Sa Majesté Chérifienne de ces nouveaux incidents, afin qu'elle prenne des mesures efficaces pour mettre un terme à ces actes de barbarie. Huit Juifs auraient encore été massacrés à Fez ou dans le voisinage.

(Signé) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—Je vous prie de vouloir bien faire part à moi et à mes collègues du résultat des ordres que Sa Majesté Chérifienne dans sa sagesse donnera pour la restitution des propriétés des Juifs de Demnat, et compensation qui sera allouée aux familles des Juifs tués par les Mahométans dans cette ville. Nous avertirons au Rabbin Amar des démarches que nous avons fait et que nous attendons de lui un rapport de la justice qui sera faite aux Juifs que nous ne doutons pas sera satisfaisante par suite de nos représentations amicales.

J. H. D. H.

No. 63.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 3.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, December 24, 1885, 4.10 P.M.

YOU may accept present offered by Austrian Government.

No. 64.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 25.)

(No. 166.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 22, 1885.

THE object of the Sultan of Morocco in sending a Special Embassy to Spain has formed the subject of considerable speculation, and I inquired yesterday of Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, if he would give me any information respecting it. He replied that the Sultan of Morocco was dissatisfied with the manner in which the clauses in the Convention which had been signed at Madrid in 1880 were being carried out relative to the protection accorded over Moorish subjects by the Agents of the foreign Powers who were parties to it, and that His Majesty was desirous of seeing the terms of the Convention loyally respected.

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The Sultan attached great importance to any support he might receive on the part of the Spanish Government in assisting him to check the irregularities which were being constantly committed in the application of the Concessions which were granted to foreign Powers under the Convention of 1880, and which were the cause of serious prejudice being inflicted upon the financial resources of the Government of Morocco.

No complaint appears to have been preferred against the Governments of Spain and England as to their course of action in the matter, but such was not the case as regarded the Agents of France and Italy in Morocco.

The Moorish Embassy, which is on the point of quitting Spain, arrived in Madrid on the very day the late King died, and I understand that the expenses of the mission will be defrayed by the Spanish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 65.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir J. Pauncefoot.—(Received December 30.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December 29, 1885.*
I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury for decision as to the answer to be returned, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Malta, inclosing a Petition from E. Scicluna and J. Tajar, of Valetta, for compensation for losses in Tunis.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 65.

Governor Sir J. Simmons to Colonel Stanley.

Sir, *Palace, Valetta, December 23, 1885.*
IN accordance with section 222 of the Colonial Regulations, I have the honour to transmit an application addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by Emmanuele Scicluna and J. di Jos. Tajar, merchants, of this town, in respect of their claims for losses suffered at Gabes, in the Regency of Tunis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. A. SIMMONS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 65.

Petition of Emmanuele Scicluna and J. di Jos. Tajar.

To Colonel the Right Honourable F. A. Stanley, M.P., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, London.

The Petition of Emmanuele Scicluna and of J. di Jos. Tajar, merchants, of the city of Valetta, Island of Malta,

Respectfully sheweth:

THAT petitioners were the proprietors of certain stores or "munsciars," containing supplies of esparto grass and presses, situate at Gabes, in Tunis, which were destroyed by fire in June 1881, during the insurrection consequent on the occupation by the French troops.

That petitioners also owned stores, esparto grass, &c., at Sfax, in Tunis, which were also destroyed under the same circumstances, for the loss of which, however, they were duly indemnified.

As regards, however, petitioners' losses at Gabes, a different course has been pursued by the French authorities, and petitioners have not been able up to the present time to obtain any compensation.

A Commission was duly appointed by the French military authorities to assess the damages suffered at Gabes by petitioners. It met on the 10th April, 1883, and after

witnesses had been heard and the claims examined, petitioners' claims were allowed, with a reduction.

Petitioners unwillingly accepted this reduction, being anxious to bring the question to a settlement.

But to their surprise, after the lapse of some time, the French military authorities informed petitioners' representative at Gabes that the conclusions of the *procès-verbal* of the 10th April, 1883, had not been approved of by the superior authorities at Tunis, and that the Commission would meet again at Gabes to re-examine their claims, and petitioners were called upon to produce authentic proofs, registers, papers, &c.

Notwithstanding that there could be no doubt of the existence of the esparto, &c., at Gabes, for which petitioners claimed compensation, as is proved by the circumstance that after the French occupation, when the insurrection had ceased, the French military authorities themselves delivered over to petitioners' agents some quantities of esparto which remained unburnt at Gabes, and which were conveyed to Sfax.

Petitioners found it then impossible to produce any such proofs, in their opinion unjustly asked for, especially after their claims as abated had been allowed, for the French authorities knew well that all books, papers, &c., had been also burnt.

Consequently, on the 27th August, 1883, this second Commission dissolved itself, after drawing up a *procès-verbal* based on false information, the result of which was not only detrimental to petitioners' interests, but also to their good name and reputation.

Since that date petitioners have continued in their efforts to obtain what is due to them, but unsuccessfully. An arbitration was at one time proposed, but came to nothing, owing to no fault of petitioners.

Petitioners have had in hand since some time some proofs regarding their losses. They can produce witnesses, as also an exact account of the esparto, &c., possessed by them at Gabes, made up from the note-books and papers of their agent, Mr. Coen, and other documents.

Petitioners would therefore appeal to you, Right Honourable Sir, for redress, and they pray you to consider the foregoing, and to take such steps as may be necessary to obtain for them what is due on account of their losses at Gabes.

And petitioners, as in duty bound, will for ever pray, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALFRED PAGE, *Solicitor.*
(For the said Scicluna and Tajar.)

November 20, 1885.

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